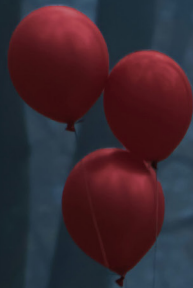
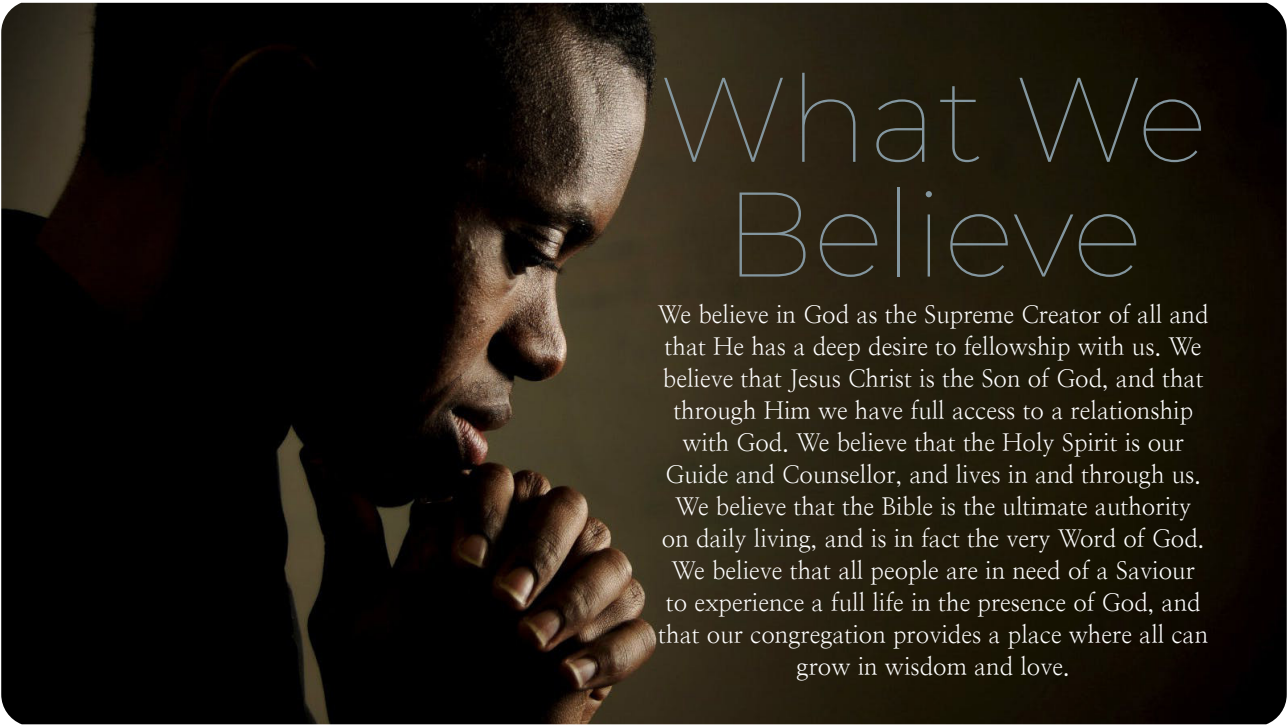


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What We Believe

We believe in God as the Supreme Creator of all and that He has a deep desire to fellowship with us. We believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, and that through Him we have full access to a relationship with God. We believe that the Holy Spirit is our Guide and Counsellor, and lives in and through us. We believe that the Bible is the ultimate authority on daily living, and is in fact the very Word of God. We believe that all people are in need of a Saviour to experience a full life in the presence of God, and that our congregation provides a place where all can grow in wisdom and love.

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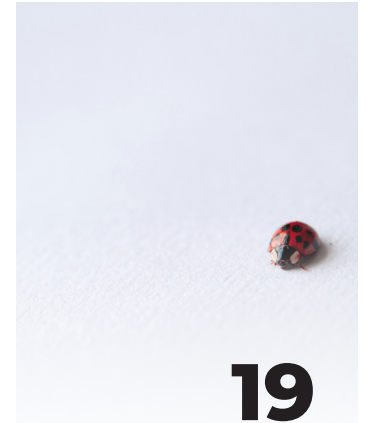
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EDITORIAL

Waldo Malan



I am sitting outside enjoying a beautiful Florida evening as only those who have been there can witness.

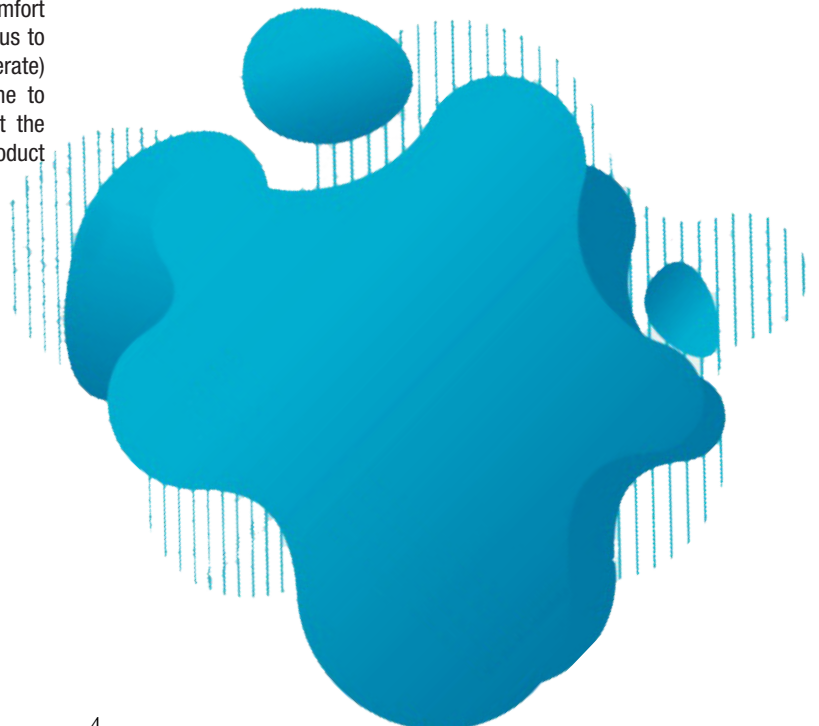
So, let me start by the reason I am in Florida; every now and then God makes shifts happen in our lives, and I believe these are strategic on His part to move us out of places of complacency and that ever-alluring comfort zones we frequent. These times of shifting force us to slow down, take a couple of deep (often desperate) breaths and take stock. As always, I have come to expect some uncomfortable times ahead, but at the same time realizing that the product will be the product of some soul searching and character building.


The last quarter of the year is globally associated with frenetic spiritual activity, with Halloween celebrations and then the pinnacle of the occult being celebrated on Walpurgisnacht. As followers of Christ these events should invoke in us not fear, but rather a righteous anger and willingness to combat the forces poised to kill and destroy us!

With this said, I have come to view our spiritual battle with new eyes, and I have come to realize not only the importance of being kitted out with the correct battle gear, but also in recognizing the weapons used against us. I am unable to view people simply as chance happenings of a big bang once upon a time, but really as agents used in the epic battle of Good vs Evil. These are exciting times, especially since we have superior weapons. We have the weapons of Love, Joy, Peace and Faith that is pitted against Hate, Sorrow, Strife and Fear. How can the enemy stand against us? How can we be defeated?

It is simply impossible, provided we keep our ears close to the voice of our Commander-in-Chief.

May this time of the year prove to be a turning point for you, a time where you can solidify your oath to protect your soul and those around you with less battle experience! I trust that the contributions of our authors will inspire you to keep strong, and when all is said and done, help you to remain standing.



A close-up, high-angle photograph of a person's hands typing on a teal vintage typewriter. The typewriter is the central focus, with its keyboard and carriage visible. The person is wearing a dark shirt and is looking down at the keys. The background is slightly blurred, showing a desk with some papers and a pen. The overall color palette is dominated by teal and blue tones.

WE HAVE BECOME HIS POETRY, A RE-CREATED PEOPLE THAT
WILL FULFILL THE DESTINY HE HAS GIVEN EACH OF US,
FOR WE ARE JOINED TO JESUS, THE ANOINTED ONE. EVEN
BEFORE WE WERE BORN, GOD PLANNED IN ADVANCE OUR
DESTINY AND THE GOOD WORKS WE WOULD DO TO FULFILL
IT!

EPHESIANS 2:10 (TPT)

MOVING MOUNTAINS

André & Jenny Roebert

The Preparation

“And Jesus, replying, said to them, ‘Have faith in God (constantly). Truly I tell you, whoever says to this mountain, Be lifted up and thrown into the sea! And does not doubt at all in his heart but believes that what he says will take place, it will be done for him. For this reasoning I am telling you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe (trust and be confident) that it is granted to you, and you will (get it)’” (Mark 11:22-24 AMP).

There are three simple steps to blast and remove the mountains in our lives that seem to loom over us and stand in the way of us receiving the reality of God’s promises. However, in order to do this, we need to recognize that the words recorded in the gospel of Mark are foundational to the life of faith. In fact, this type of mountain-moving or mountain-blasting faith is exactly what Jesus operated in when He walked on earth. These were the type of results He got when He prayed and believed and spoke God’s will. We know that the Bible teaches us to imitate Jesus and have Him as our example and so most believers take this portion of scripture and begin shouting and declaring scripture at the “mountains” in their lives, expecting to see results like Jesus did, yet they seldom get the results they desire. Why is that? Well, I believe that the reason is simply because no matter how foundational they may be, these verses are not stand-alone.

And so to begin with our first step of blasting and removing our mountains, we must begin with a certain amount of preparation. That’s right, we need to do a little homework concerning our mountains before we just throw our explosive words of scripture at them. We may end up causing more damage than what’s worth, without even denting our mountain! So to do our preparation means to become a little more informed about our mountain and most certainly what caused it to be there in the first place. Truth is some of us may have more than just one mountain standing in the way of our miracle, we may find ourselves staring in the face of an entire mountain range that has been built up over years. We need to get wisdom concerning our mountain, godly wisdom that reveals the root cause of it’s threatening existence.

The teaching of Jesus on moving mountains is foundational to our faith but they don’t stand in isolation! Just like the rest of the Bible, these verses need to be read in context in order to understand them fully. The preceding section (v.11-17) states:

Then Jesus entered Jerusalem and went to the temple. And after looking around at everything, he went out to Bethany with the twelve since it was already late. Now the next day, as they went out from Bethany, he was hungry. After noticing in the distance a fig tree with leaves, he went to see if he could find any fruit on it. When he came to it he found nothing but leaves, for it was not the season for figs. He said to it, “May no one ever eat fruit from you again.” And his disciples heard it. Then they came to Jerusalem. Jesus entered the temple area and began to drive out those who were selling and buying in the temple courts. He turned over the tables of the money

changers and the chairs of those selling doves, and he would not permit anyone to carry merchandise through the temple courts. Then he began to teach them and said, “Is it not written: ‘My house will be called a house of prayer for all nations’? But you have turned it into a den of robbers!”

Notice that Jesus didn’t say anything to the fig tree or the money changers in the temple the first day He went there. The Bible said that He made the trip, saw what was going on and walked away. It’s obvious that He was angered and even outraged by what He saw, yet instead of reacting to it, He looked around, walked out and returned to Bethany. Why? Because Jesus said that He only did what He saw His Father do and that He only said what He heard His Father say. So obviously, He needed to first hear His Father on the matter before He reacted. He needed time to pray and speak to His Father concerning what was troubling Him. So He went back to Bethany to spend the night getting direction and wisdom from His Father about the situation.

Now if Jesus had to receive wisdom and direction before He acted, then surely we do too, especially before confronting our mountains.

Before confronting our mountain, we are to seek Godly wisdom too, from the Word of God. Proverbs 4:7 says, *“The beginning of wisdom is: get wisdom (skillful and godly wisdom)! For it is the principle thing. And get understanding (discernment, comprehension and interpretation)”*; *“...skillful and godly wisdom (which is the comprehensive insight into the ways and purposes of God” (v.11).*

Only when Jesus knew what His Father wanted Him to do, He went back to the temple to operate in faith and clean house. Just the same, we can’t just jump up and start commanding mountains to move before we do a little preparation work.

The reason for this is that all mountains are not the same and each mountain has a root! Very often we have an entire mountain range that has been built up over a number of years through fear, unbelief and disobedience to God’s word. It could be a mountain of financial debt or sickness or depression or heartache concerning our rebellious children or a rocky marriage. Each of these things must be dealt with individually. If you are determined to deal with the mountain so that it doesn’t rise up again, you need to find out what caused it.

So, like Jesus did, pray for wisdom. James 1:5 say that we can ask God for wisdom, *“...liberally without reproach”*. We can seek God’s council from His word concerning our situation, repent where we have neglected to walk in wisdom and begin to walk in obedience to His word.

The Mountain of Financial Debt

If you are facing a mountain of financial debt, recognize that according to God’s wisdom, we are to owe no man anything but to love him. (Romans 13:8). Begin to do away with those credit cards and unnecessary loans. Be faithful to tithe and bring your financial



offerings to the Lord. Repent of squanders living and begin to walk in wisdom concerning the day-to-day management of your finances. We have found that many people are in the financial difficulty they are in because they have never recorded their monthly income and expenses or put a simple monthly budget together. Without a definite plan to tackle debt and live within your means, your mountain is going nowhere but up in size, no matter how many scriptures you hurl at it.

The Mountain of Sickness and Depression

Sometimes we are faced with the dark mountain of sickness or depression that threatens to terrify our souls and drain the joy of the Lord right out of us. The Word teaches us to be extremely diligent where the area of our thoughts are concerned. No matter how negative and depressing your thought life can appear, put wisdom to practice - recognize which thoughts are based on fear and doubt, take them captive and cast them right out of your mind. Then be sure to replace each one with the truth of God's word that brings life and peace. This process of bringing our thoughts into submission to God's word is called renewing your mind. Romans 12:2 says that renewing our minds to God's word is His perfect will for our lives! When God's word shouts louder inside of us than the depressing thoughts of defeat, we begin to see a turn in the tide and victory becomes a sure thing. However, neglecting to deal with the negative thoughts that harass our minds will ensure your defeat.

The Mountain of Rebellious Children

Perhaps your mountain is the painful reminder of your rebellious children. From experience, I have found that parenting is not for the faint hearted, no matter the age or gender of the child. However the Holy Spirit is constantly available to us as our teacher and comforter. The word of God is very clear on the responsibility of a parent to raise our children in the way of the Lord, consistently training and disciplining in love and living by example. When we decide to model lives of love, honesty and self-control in front of our children, they follow suit. Keep a tight reign on strife and mean-spiritedness, and give no room for I'll talking or disrespect. Preaching to your children will only bring frustration and indifference. Rather preach by your own right living, patience and kindness. Always disciplining in love and remain consistent to avoid confusion and distrust.

Children always mimic their parents' natures, so take a good long look in the mirror before shouting your scriptures and allow the Holy Spirit to correct some

corrective, internal surgery before you try move this mountain.

The Mountain of a Rocky Marriage

Facing the mountain of a rocky marriage can be so disheartening. Wouldn't it be wonderful if all we needed to do to see change or improvement was to quote a few scriptures, stand back and see the transformation take place before our eyes?! Oh boy, that would be great! And if this is your impression, you have been misinformed for sure. I came to realize that a marriage consists of two people - my spouse and me. Only the Holy Spirit has the ability to change the heart of our spouse so our responsibility lies entirely with our own walk of love and gentle attitude and quietly praying for them. Learning how to unconditionally love someone you live with, takes much diligence and self-surrender to the Spirit of God.

The Bible teaches us to strive to walk in love and forgiveness continuously. We are told to consistently seek out our partner's best interest and always be prepared to embrace change within godly boundaries. Very often we have to start focusing on the good things we have in our marriage, being grateful for them, instead of always making issues of the ones we can't change without divine intervention. By no means does this mean we should settle for unhappiness. On the contrary, while you stand on the promises of God's word concerning your marriage, be diligent to walk in love and patience, always considering your spouse before your own needs. This kind of godly conduct is conducive to harmony and peace and cultivates an environment for understanding.

Don't Just Shout!

The word of God is most powerful and when used with wisdom and understanding, will always bring life changing results. However, shouting scripture at your mountain won't cause it to move an inch let alone cause it to disappear into the sea. In order to get the results Jesus got when he exercised His faith and spoke God's word, we need to do a little preparation first. Getting God's perspective and wisdom concerning our problem or mountain is the first step to seeing it uprooted and thrown right out of our lives for good.

JUST A LITTLE COURAGE

We've all heard that a little faith, even as small as a mustard seed, can accomplish great things. **JOYCE MEYER** shares how a little courage also goes a long way.

Have you ever decided to stay in a bad situation simply because you were afraid to move?

I can remember my knees feeling so weak when God was trying to take me to a new level in my ministry. In fact, it was very tempting to stay where I was at the time because I was comfortable. But somehow I knew that if I gave in to my fear, I would regret it.

Too often, we decide to wait for our fears to subside before we will do what God is asking us to do. Unfortunately, our fears may never subside—so instead of waiting, we need to learn how to be courageous.

My husband, Dave, defines courage as the willingness to risk who you are and what you have for what you want and who you want to be. It's a definition that has helped me face my fears to become the person I am today.

Whatever difficulties you're facing right now, "I will not fear," is the attitude you need to embrace. I want you to understand that you've got what it takes to make it through every challenge that comes your way.

It Is What It Is, So Don't Worry

God gave me a test recently, and it was a pretty major one. My doctors thought they'd found something in

me that would have been a serious health problem, and even though I was going through a stressful time, I knew God wanted me to keep quiet about it.

So here I am, waiting for test results, doing mental gymnastics for about two weeks. And I just kept saying to myself, "It is what it is. Whatever I need to deal with, God will help me deal with it, so I'm just going to take this thing one day at a time."

Thankfully, the test results came back showing nothing wrong. But what if something was wrong? You know, in so many of the difficult situations we face, what God wants from us is to simply trust in His plan and keep on going day by day, not giving up. You see, there are some things we just can't change in life. But we can always pray and study and depend on the Holy Spirit to change what's happening inside us. You and I can have peace in the midst of all our trials and tragedies.

It Takes Courage to Wait on God

God is never late in answering our prayers, but He's generally not early and He doesn't work on our timetable. Actually, He's really good at arriving at our "midnight hour." But the whole reason for that is to keep stretching our faith—building a solid foundation for our trust in Him.

Philippians 4:6 says, "Do not fret or have any anxiety about anything, but in every circumstance and in everything, by prayer and petition (definite

requests), with thanksgiving, continue to make your wants known to God."

Sometimes you have to press in to an attitude of praise and thanksgiving. And it takes a lot of faith and patience, but you can trust that God has your future in His hands.

You can stay happy and not have your way. You can have peace and not understand what God's doing in your life or why you're going through a time of difficulty.

Psalms 37 is a great place to go in the Bible when you need to draw courage from God. I encourage you to read it through in its entirety.

Verses 39-40 say, "*But the salvation of the [consistently] righteous is of the Lord; He is their Refuge and secure Stronghold in the time of trouble. And the Lord helps them and delivers them; He delivers them from the wicked and saves them, because they trust and take refuge in Him.*"

No matter what your life looks like at any given moment—take courage. God is still God, He is most assuredly with you, and He will help you do whatever you need to do.



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ANY GIVEN MOMENT—TAKE COURAGE. GOD IS
STILL GOD, HE IS MOST ASSUREDLY WITH YOU,
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VISION FOR THE NATION

Martie Du Plessis

So many people ask if it is wise to have more children when living in South Africa. It seems that the latest trend among young people is to be sterilised even before they get married, and this is attributed to their fear of the unknown. This trend is a clear indication that many people have totally lost hope for themselves, their children and the next generation. In fact, they don't actually think about a next generation as their short-sighted perspective inhibits them to ponder so far.

Recently two factors renewed my excitement about the future for our nation, and I find myself unable to stop sharing these. A short while back I presented some seminars in Phalaborwa, where my main aim was to assist and encourage families in their educational journey. During one of these presentations I asked a quiet, young man - a farmer from the district - what he had learnt from attending the seminars. His answer to me was, "I do not only understand what my children's future will look like, I also understand that I have the ability to also know what my grandchildren's future will look like." In a short presentation of "hope-talk" and visionary influence, a young father could see into a next generation. He realised that his influence in his own children's life can even effect a next generation, that of his grandchildren. This father instantly understood his responsibility to his offspring as well as their children. I was reminded of the saying that "spearheading multiplication is not the only task expected of Christian leaders", and, in the words of M. Rush, that *"there is no greater leadership challenge than the challenge to help our followers become leaders capable of training their followers to be leaders also."* (Rush, *New Leader*)

Then the next incident to pique my interest was when I noticed a man sitting in the front row during the seminar, not saying a word. He looked very sceptical and resistant to be at this meeting of parents who are interested in the education and future of their children. During break time this man asked to make a booking for a consultation and said, "I need help because I have never been empowered by anybody to be a proper dad." He went home after the seminar and the next day taught his son (now 11) to use a welding machine, which was a first-time experience for both of them since his son was born. He realised for the first time in his life that he had all inside of himself that was necessary to empower his own son for the future. It was also during the consultation that this father 'heard' that "through the Holy Spirit, he was furnished with the multi-faceted and inexhaustible divine adequacy which he needed to pursue his calling as a dad according to the will of God." This life-sharing situation, equipment and training was the beginning of new hope for this family.

You might ask how I can be excited about these simple matters, as it is so unpretentious. It is precisely because of its simplicity that it becomes clear these situations are in the plan of God. For the parties directly affected by this Divine encounter (because that is what it really is), it easy to follow as this was exactly the life that Jesus has modelled for us. Scripture and Church history are full of examples of God calling the unqualified, and qualifying them through a process that speaks of His patience, grace and

Fatherly love. Jesus modelled an example where real life, with all its complexities, is the workshop for the "making of people". This direct involvement of a parent serves to increase motivation and promote a sense of responsibility and ownership. Gunter Krallman states that the model Jesus left for us was one of focusing on learning through doing, or being actively involved (*Following Jesus, 1987*).

Many of us have an "orphan spirit" and therefore do not have the capacity to lead others, especially our own children, into an understanding of the love of the Father. When we know God our Father adopted us because of His love and grace and not because of anything we did to deserve it (Romans 5:8) we will find our security in who He is, and not in what we do. This is truly amazing grace, and precisely the grace that needs to be extended to a next generation.

Our fear starts as we listen to the people around us - politicians, teachers, spiritual leaders, community leaders - talk about the future, our children, the state of education, crime, declining moral standards and the economy. Have we ever stopped to consider the economy of God? And God's blueprint for education, where He intended education as a mentoring lifestyle within the family, where character formation was the focus? Family relationships are intense and dramatic with permanent transformations taking place. This was God's great aim with the family as His institution.

We must come back to the basics, where parents take the responsibility for their children and providing a safe place to grow in the family. Parents must reclaim their role as prime educators, where they exert influence through an avenue of relationship. We need parents making intentional time for sharing the ways of God to their children and training them how to apply these. Children who have a firm Godly worldview will in future influence the lives of thousands upon thousands of people.

On my arrival back from Phalaborwa I was greeted with the wonderful news that my daughter is pregnant with her fourth child. She is 26 and my other grandchildren are respectively 4, 2 and 1 years of age. The news of her pregnancy gave me a burning motivation to be more active in the answer for our nation. What hope do we have for a next generation of people if we are not willing to be changing agents in this generation? *"One of the Master's leading intentions in the coaching of his friends was that they would in the future remember and reproduce what they had learned through their association with Him"* (C.C. Manz and H.P. Sims, *Company of Heroes: Unleashing the Power of Self-Leadership*).

I bought a big map of South Africa and I jotted down on it the amazing faithful families in the country that have hope for their families - hope for education and hope for the nation. It is not a dead hope in nothing but rather an active participation in life-giving and growth towards people with Godly character that can make a difference in the future. Jesus was totally obedient to God and had a deep concern for the character development of His disciples. These that have hope are trusting God for children with good character.

The perspective I have as a person travelling the nation is not that parents are passive, but that parents have seen the light, that they have a passion for the next generation, and that they also are passionately involved in raising their own children and be supportive of other families and their

children. It is not true that we are a desperate country and that there is no hope! There is a harvest coming from the seeds have been sown for over 20 years. It is a harvest made possible through home educating families, where the home-grown children have become adults with Godly influence. They now are starting to home educate their own children and witness a new generation of leaders that are walking our streets, entering the business world and influencing communities. It is a people that are willing to lay down themselves.

If there are readers without hope, make sure you get the correct inspiration from those who have hope in God and a strong conviction in their roles in the upbringing of their children as well as a dedication to be life givers. This role is not a role of exercising of power but as of empowering others.

Christian schools are a great help but unless the parents are also empowered to be the first educators, with the schools as the extension of the parents, it will still leave the parents powerless.

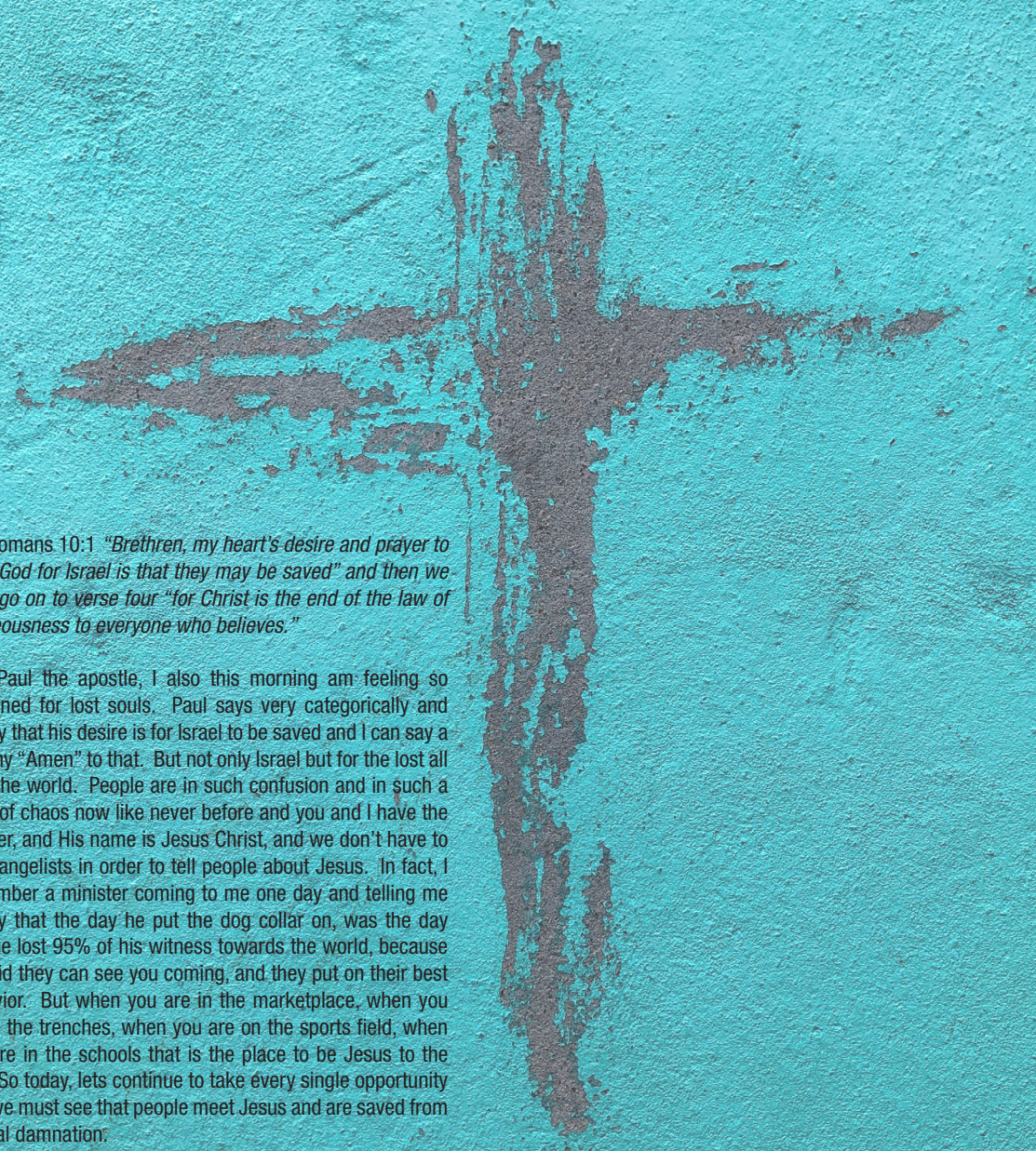
Dynamis/Uncapped Education empowers parents to take up their unique roles as God intended with the the dads being the visionaries (spiritual leaders) of their house hold. The fullness of this influence in essence is not in what the parents say but who they are.

WE MUST COME BACK TO THE BASICS, WHERE PARENTS TAKE THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THEIR CHILDREN AND PROVIDING A SAFE PLACE TO GROW IN THE FAMILY.



SAVED

Angus Buchan



Romans 10:1 *“Brethren, my heart’s desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they may be saved” and then we go on to verse four “for Christ is the end of the law of righteousness to everyone who believes.”*

Like Paul the apostle, I also this morning am feeling so burdened for lost souls. Paul says very categorically and clearly that his desire is for Israel to be saved and I can say a healthy “Amen” to that. But not only Israel but for the lost all over the world. People are in such confusion and in such a state of chaos now like never before and you and I have the answer, and His name is Jesus Christ, and we don’t have to be evangelists in order to tell people about Jesus. In fact, I remember a minister coming to me one day and telling me clearly that the day he put the dog collar on, was the day that he lost 95% of his witness towards the world, because he said they can see you coming, and they put on their best behavior. But when you are in the marketplace, when you are in the trenches, when you are on the sports field, when you are in the schools that is the place to be Jesus to the lost. So today, lets continue to take every single opportunity that we must see that people meet Jesus and are saved from eternal damnation.



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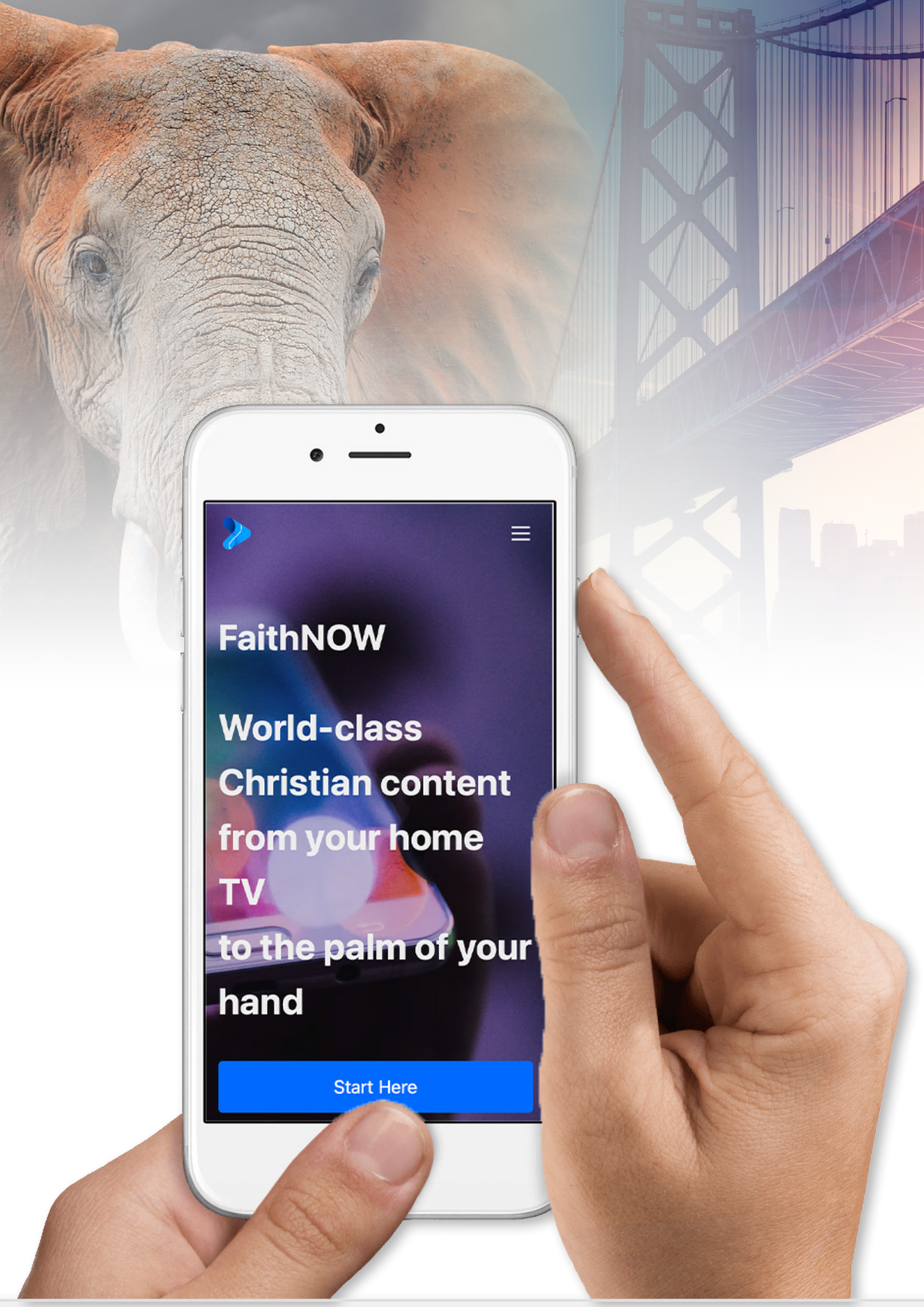


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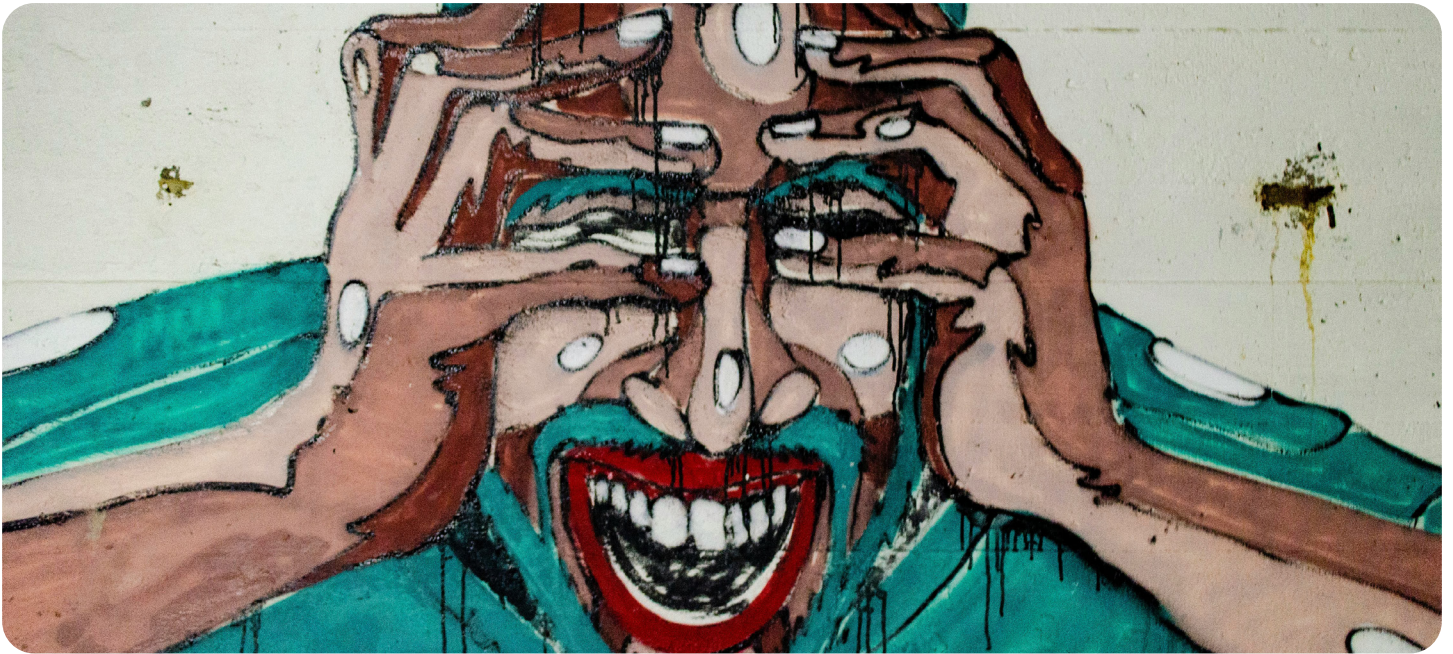
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HOW CREATIVE PEOPLE CAN SURVIVE TOUGH FINANCIAL TIMES

YOUR MEDIA AND ENTERTAINMENT CAREER IS A MARATHON, NOT A SPRINT.

Phil Cooke



I recently spoke to a group of Hollywood entertainment professionals and shared some tips for getting through tough financial times. Although it's difficult, it's essential that, whenever possible, we do our best not to let financial challenges distract us from our career or calling. My talk was geared toward entertainment and media people, but it would work for anyone in almost any situation. Let me know if these suggestions could help you, and please share them with someone experiencing this type of financial or job crisis:

1) First, don't overreact. Too many people panic during times like this and make decisions they regret later. Don't assume the worst, and don't be afraid. Should we plan? Yes. Is this serious? Yes. But it's not time to freak out.

2) Streamline your life. What are "convenience" areas? Could you downsize your car? Take in a roommate? Cut back on any luxuries? How about too many lattes? One Starbucks trip a day is more than \$100+ a month. Don't hack, but start looking at areas that don't really reflect your mission or calling or aren't making a positive difference.

3) Don't cut your lifelines. God is your source – not your bank account. And your friends and relationships are what feed your spirit. Research shows that it's friendships that get people through difficult times. So reconnect today.

4) Re-think your Focus. After a few years in the business, too many industry people forget their original goal. That's usually because they don't keep their eyes on the target. Things change, but it never hurts to remember your priorities. Either you live your life by priorities or by pressures. Never lose sight of that during challenging times. It will help keep you focused. This might be God's wake-up call to remind you of your original vision and purpose. Take this time to re-think and re-evaluate.

5) Keep Growing. Are you engaging in the current culture? I've met some industry people trapped in the 70's or 80's. Don't chase trends; study them to see where the culture is going. There's an old advertising saying: "Once product sales are down, it's too late to advertise." Telling your story should be an ongoing process – and you should always be looking for original and innovative ways to engage with other professionals. If you're telling the same stories or pitching the exact projects you did 2-3 years ago, then you're behind the curve. Far too many filmmakers are answering questions nobody's asking. (Pastors, are you listening?)

My friend and film producer Ralph Winter said something profound – "Success in Hollywood or the media is a marathon, not a sprint." Accurate expectations can make a significant difference in your potential for success. Realize that "overnight" success stories often take 10-20 years to unfold. Plan for the long haul. Otherwise, you'll give up too soon and never have the chance to reach your potential.

TEN CRITICAL KEYS FOR DESIGNING A CREATIVE CULTURE

AN INCREDIBLY IMPORTANT TASK DURING THIS CULTURAL MOMENT...

It's no secret that culture is more important than vision. I've worked in creative, vibrant cultures where original thinking is valued, people listen to each other, and wonderful things happen. On the other hand I've worked at organizations where you could literally feel the oppression when you walked into the building. Those destructive cultures often have leaders with great vision and potential, but because the culture is so negative, that vision will never be realized.

And right now, during this time of turmoil around the world, creativity will be vital in providing a roadmap out. So there's no better time to develop a creative culture inside your organization.

So how do you build a creative culture? In my book *Ideas on a Deadline: How to Be Creative When the Clock is Ticking*, I describe 10 principles I've used to turn around numerous organizations:

1. Create Stability – Creative people need stability. If they're worried about losing their job, financial problems, or excessive turnover, they'll never release their best ideas. I've seen terrible leaders think they're motivating the team by threatening them with being fired – which is the worst thing you could ever do. Even when you're going through difficult times, create an atmosphere of stability for the team. You'll be rewarded down the road.

2. Make it Safe from Excessive Criticism – Critics are a dime a dozen, but leaders who can help their team move from bad ideas to legendary ideas are rare. There's a time to look at what doesn't work, but that should be done in an atmosphere of trust. Criticism always goes down better when it comes from a trusted and respected source.

3. Make Sure Your Leaders Are On the Same Page – All it takes is one of your leaders to contradict what you're trying to do to wreck a creative culture. At the beginning of building your culture, make

absolutely sure your leadership team is unified and moving with you. One critical or disconnected leader or manager can sow seeds of doubt that will topple the entire project.

4. Be Flexible – Creative people don't all operate on the same schedule or work the same way. Give your team some flexibility and it will revolutionize their attitude. At one major nonprofit I talked the CEO into allowing the creative team to rip up carpet, repaint, dump the cubicles, and design their own work spaces. There was fear and trembling on the CEO's part, but within a matter of months, the creative team transformed that organization.

5. Get Them The Tools They Need – Nothing drags a creative team down as much as broken, old, or out-of-date tools. Sure we all have budget challenges, but do whatever you can to get them the right computers, design tools, video equipment – and whatever else they need. Think about it: The less time and energy they spend overcoming technical and equipment problems, the more time and energy they can spend on developing amazing ideas.

6. Push Them Outside Their Comfort Zone – Leaders often think that creative people want to be left alone and operate on their own schedule. Sure they like to create their own timetable, but they also relish a challenge. In fact, while they probably won't admit it, creative people love deadlines because it gives them perspective on the project. I don't even like to start working until I can see the deadline approaching. There is just something about a challenge that gets my blood flowing and the ideas coming.

7. Get Out Of Their Way – One of the most important aspects of a creative culture, once it's in process, is to get out of the way of your creative team. We all know micro-managing is a disaster for anyone – especially creatives. So give them space

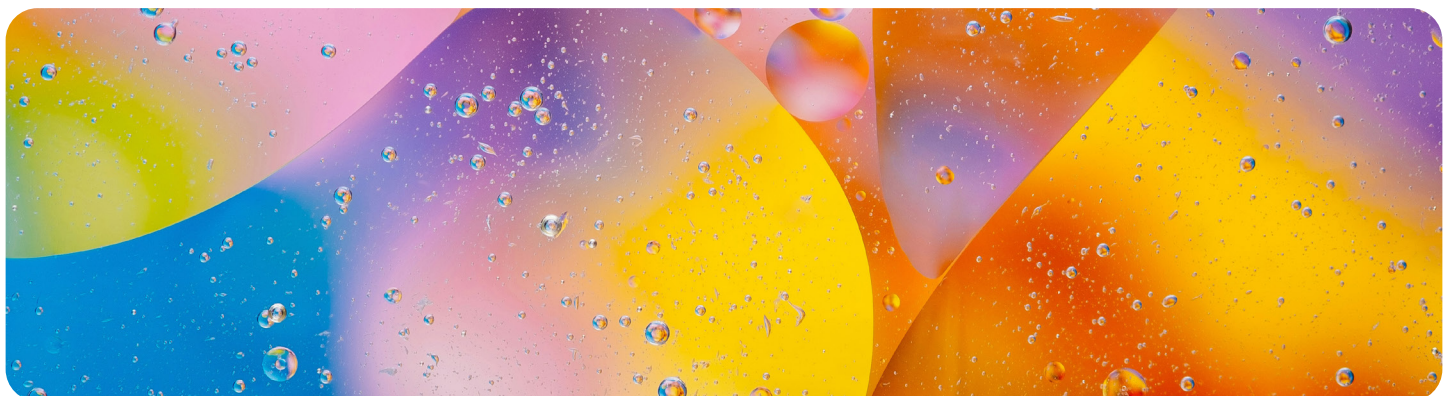
and let them solve problems on their own.

8. Understand the Difference Between Organizational Structure and Communication Structure – This is a huge issue for me. Every organization needs an organizational structure. Who reports to who matters, and hierarchy is important. But when it comes to communication, I recommend you throw the organizational structure out the window. Your creative team should be able to call anyone to ask questions and discuss ideas. Don't force them to communicate through supervisors, managers, or anyone else. Create a free-flowing communications system, and the ideas will grow.

9. Walk The Factory Floor – Leadership expert John Maxwell recommends that leaders “walk the factory floor” and meet every employee. Develop a personal relationship with employees at all levels – especially when it comes to your creative team. Pixar and Disney Animation President Ed Catmull takes that seriously – even when it comes to giving bonuses. When they produce a box-office success, they share the profits with the team that produced it – which often numbers more than 100 people. But Ed doesn't just mail or direct deposit the check and send a nice note. Ed takes the time to either go to each team member personally or invite them to his office individually and hand them the check – and tell them how much their work is appreciated.

10. Give Them Credit – Finally, a great creative culture allows everyone to be noticed for their accomplishments. Never take credit for your team's work, and always give them the honor they're due. You'll find that when you protect your creative team and allow them to get the glory for their work, they'll follow you into a fire.

These are my ten keys to developing a great creative culture. Now is the time to get my book and start building...



CHAIM MALESPIN

GALILEE, ISRAEL

CoFounder and Chairman of the board of directors at the charity, **Aliyah Return Center (ARC)**, registered in Israel as a 501(c)(3). Chaim (HIGH-EM) Malespin is a passionate visionary who strives to educate Christians and lovers of Israel from around the world about the Hebrew roots of the Christian faith.

With a vision to eradicate anti-Semitism by building bridges and encouraging Jews and Christians to work together to fulfill God's plans for Israel and the nations, Chaim and the **ARC ministry** focus on education, infrastructural development, innovation and Aliyah.



Watch as Chaim Malespin explains his vision for the Aliyah Return Center.

CHAIM'S EXPERTISE

- Restoration of Israel
- Entrepreneur
- Sergeant major in the Israel Defense Forces (has been through a few wars)
- Ordained congregational leader in the Galilee
- Bridge builder between Israel and the nations

AVAILABILITY

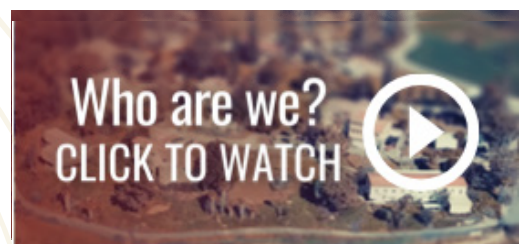
- Chaim Malespin is most widely available between 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. (Eastern Time)
- Available via phone, WhatsApp, Zoom or Skype. Via email at watchaliyah@gmail.com
- Time zone; Jerusalem time (ET + 6 hours).

ABOUT ARC [CLICK TO VISIT »](#)

Aliyah Return Center (ARC) is an Israel-based registered nonprofit organization, helping Jewish new immigrants establish roots in the land of Israel and thrive. A ministry built on a foundation of love in uncompromising faith with a vision to eradicate anti-Semitism by building bridges and encouraging Jews and Christians to work together to fulfill God's plans for Israel and the nations through:

- Education
- Innovation
- Infrastructural Development
- Aliyah aid

ARC mobilizes the church to embrace God's call to serve His people and stand as ambassadors/advocates for Israel and the Jewish people through various initiatives such as their Ambassador Academy, Internships, Volunteering, Joint Torah Studies, and various worship events.



WHAT IS ALIYAH?

Aliyah is defined as the immigration of Jews to Israel, but at the Aliyah Return Center, the meaning goes much deeper.

[64 ALIYAH SCRIPTURES DIGITAL DOWNLOAD »](#)

To book an interview, contact Karen Hepp / Karen@InfinityConcepts.com

LIFE DOES NOT ALLOW A VACUUM

Zithi Dhlamini

In the classroom, boardroom, sports field, church, entertainment industry, or kindergarten (believe it or not) there's always someone who wants to have you replaced so fast that you become instant history, sent straight into archives. Some call it a succession plan, hand-over, take-over or simply growth. The truth of the matter is that every day of our lives, whether we know it or not there is somebody who is your successor, somebody ready to "fill the gap".

Succession is taking place every day. In our families, attention is never focussed on one child for long. It moves to the younger/smarter one, not by degree of comparison but because succession in a subtle way worms its way into our private space whether we like it or not.

Take this for example, a new appointment brings a lot of excitement to the one going away but to the employer it creates a vacant post which needs to be filled immediately. From the time you inform your employer of your appointment, the employer will start making plans to have you replaced as soon as possible, if not give you a counter-offer so that they can retain you.

Take a look around you! In politics, people are voted in and out of office, plants die others germinate, celebrities come and go, employees hire and fire or promotion happens, the list is endless.

With nature, when one tree dies another one is

planted. Plants, livestock and every natural beauty around us is replaced, if not man-made then the natural way. To a certain extent, human beings have found it possible to replace many things only with limitations when it comes to God's divine nature (for example: stars, moon, sun) God has put limitations to what men can tamper with. The sun, moon and stars God made. There are some things which God cannot delegate but make on His own, see Genesis 1:16 (and God made the two great lights – the greater light (the sun) to rule the day and the lesser light (the moon) to rule the night. He also made the stars. This is a task too much for man! What comes from the hands of God rules permanently.

The point I'm trying to make is that life does not allow a vacuum. No one is indispensable, in fact, while you're still good at it, you should train/teach someone to excel in it just like you are if not to be better than you. In fact, the greatest accomplishment for each one of us is when we're able to pass on the skill. It comes when we are able to witness that individual become a huge success. That, gives us a lot of fulfilment which is what each one of us desires above everything else - a sense of purpose.

There is an unwritten code to success or rather prominence. For one, it has a time-limit. Life is very fast paced – do your best. Give your best everyday. It may be your last.

Secondly, it is the legacy you pass on whether consciously or not. There are pseudonyms which

are in good taste and some totally awful but they stick with people more than their original names. Why? Because people tend to remember us based on things we did, whether good or bad. Not all of us will make it into history books but we're all writing our own history, everyday. We fill pages everyday with the decisions we make and take.

When we're all grey, seated in a bench and thinking back all that we have done, the past will begin to play back like a movie.

Desmond Tutu once said: "I am a leader by default, only because nature does not allow a vacuum.

James Larkin was quoted as saying: "Humanity abhors, above all things, a vacuum in itself, and your class will be cut off from humanity as the surgeon cuts the cancer and the alien growth from the body". We all have to get busy with the little time we have in this planet, I don't mean to sound like a preacher, the truth is the clock is ticking. We don't have eternity but while we're here we have a duty to give it all our best.

It's in my hands and it's in your hands to make a difference. I'm tired of excuse making and blame fixing but I choose to own up to my mistakes, dust myself off and continue to give the best I can. I want to go to bed with a smile on my face more often than not, knowing confidently that I am making a difference in my own little space. What about you, care to join me?



FEASTING IN HIS HONOR

Christmas is a time of celebration and usually goes with feasting in one form or another. **KEITH HERSHEY** proposes, not surprisingly, that the real feast should be about Christ!

In places all around the world, the Salvation Army hosts Christmas Dinners for the needy and the homeless. Many of you may have participated in large dinners of this kind. These are the kinds of dinners and feasts Jesus is suggesting in the Book of Luke:

"Then the master of the house . . . said to his servant, 'Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in here the poor, and the maimed, and the lame, and the blind.' And the servant said, 'Master, it is done as you commanded, and still there is room.' Then the master said to the servant, 'Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled'."

Luke 14:21-23

Let me tell you just one story from one Salvation Army dinner: The room was large, so the tables were set with over one hundred place settings. Decorations were somewhat sparse, but an attempt had been made to set a festive tone. The red plastic cups on the tables filled the room with a cheerful thread of colour. The sound of carols was growing louder as the band tuned up, and the aromas of roasting meat and mince pie had begun filling the room.

Scores of eager volunteers were looking at their watches and waiting for the doors to open. When the doors were finally opened, Elizabeth, a volunteer hostess, was waiting to greet the fifth guest at the door. A woman with dark bruises on her face entered. She held a baby in her arms and the hand of a three-year old boy. Closely following her was a young girl looking about with frightened eyes. Elizabeth welcomed them and escorted them to a place at one of the tables. Throughout the following three hours, Elizabeth seated many other guests, but she frequently returned to talk a moment with the small family awhile and to make certain their needs were being met.

The dinner included music, singing and gifts as well as a Bible Story about our loving Heavenly Father, and how He had provided this meal because He loved every person there.

In the afternoon as people were leaving, the tiny girl came running back to where Elizabeth was clearing a table. She spoke rapidly, "God never invited me to a pretty dinner before. I wanted to thank Him, but I didn't see Him, so please tell Him for me." Then she darted out the door and was gone.

That story is hard to tell without my handkerchief being handy. And it gives pause to wonder when I last invited a stranger to my table for a dinner that God was hosting. Reminding me once again that: The seed I sow is the only

seed that will grow.

Those Words of Jesus are surely a clarion call to each of us to include in our festivities those who don't have the means to return our hospitality. It is not our hospitality; anyway, it is God's. God has provided our homes and places of dwelling. God has given us food for our tables. And in case we have forgotten, it is to be a feast in God's Name. God will even provide the guests or recall those He wants us to compel to come in. Sometimes I feel that I need to thank Him for just for letting me participate.

Recently, I was told of someone who writes a daily thank you letter to God during this season. Sort of a visual "attitude of gratitude." At first thought that seems sort of odd, and who has time? But if you ponder the idea, you'll be reminded that during this season, there are so many special things that fill our days. So many in fact that a few weeks later we can't even remember them all. Think of the blessings of all the extra hospitality, and the many small-unexpected gifts - a cup of coffee brought to your desk; your daughter's excitement about playing the part of Mary, in the church pageant; a basket of fruit left on your doorstep; a much-needed Bible verse dropped into your thoughts by the Holy Spirit just at the right moment; and of course, there are extra hugs, and miles-of-smiles.

Anyway, the idea told to me was that the thank you notes should be in the form of a daily letter to our loving Heavenly Father. Then seal them, drop them in a box and put the box away for another season. Because many of us will need them about January or so. There will come a dark day (be it physical or spiritual) when we need to get out our box, open the letters and rejoice all over again in the many wonderful expressions of the JOY of the Lord.

When God sent an angel to announce Jesus' arrival on earth, the angel said, "I bring you good tidings of great joy . . . And the shepherds made known abroad the saying." Luke 2:10-17 So, let's also make known abroad the Joy by lifting up the Name of Jesus in all of our festivities, and especially during this season we call Christmas.

The season gets its name from the Catholic Church Liturgy, meaning, a Christ-Mass. In Latin, the farewell phrase of the communion service is "missa est" (which became known as "Mass") or "Go forth." Thus, the intent of a "Christ-mass," celebration, is to "go forth" lifting up the Name of our Lord Jesus, Who is the Christ, the Messiah.

If our feasts and festivities are hollow and disappointing, it's because we have left out the reason for JOY. Joy comes when we live Life In Fullness Everyday by joining with God to give His LIFE away!



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SOCIAL MEDIA

This department facilitates the Faith Group by establishing and/or maintaining the following websites / social networking sites:

OUR WEBSITES

FAITH BROADCASTING NETWORK - myfaith.tv

Faith AFRICA - africa.myfaith.tv
Faith TV - usa.myfaith.tv
Faith UK - uk.myfaith.tv
FaithNOW - faithnow.net

Faith Cares - myfaithcares.com
Faith Church Naples - faithchurchnaples.com
Faith Missions - faithcares.myfaith.tv
MyFaith Magazine - magazine.myfaith.tv

Beyond Adventure - bagapyear.com
Faith Bible Institute - faithbi.com
Faith Global Institute - online.faihgj.com
Faith Kidz - faithkidz.tv

Faith Dome - dome.myfaith.tv
Audio Downloads - dl.myriver.com

Christian Events Diary - diary.myfaithtv.com
Daily Devotions - devotions.myfaithtv.com

River Hotels - riverhotels.com
River Spa - riverspa.co.za



OUR SOCIAL NETWORKING SITES



FACEBOOK

MyFaith TV – myfaithtv
NXT - theNXTlive
FaithNOW - faithnowapp

Faith Church Buffalo City - faithchurchbuffalocity
Faith Church Naples - faithchurchnaples

André & Jenny – andrejenny

Beyond Adventure - beyond.adventure
Faith Global Institute - faithglobalinstitute
Faith Cares - myfaithcares
Faith Missions - myfaithmissions

River Hotels - riverhotels
Tenahead Lodge - TenaheadLodgeandSpa
Halyards Hotel - HalyardsHotelandSpa



TWITTER

André & Jenny - @andrejenny

Faith Broadcasting Network - @MyFaithTV

FaithNOW - @faithnowapp

River Hotels - @RiverHotels



INSTAGRAM

Andre & Jenny - @andreandjenny
Faith Bible Institue - @myfaithbiafrica
Faith Broadcasting Network - @myfaithtv
Faith Church Buffalo City - @faithchurchbuffalocity
Faith Church Naples - @faithchurchnaples
Faith Global Institute - @faithglobalinstitute
FaithNOW - @faithnowapp
Faith Missions - @myfaithmissions
NXT - @thenxt.tv

River Hotels - @riverhotels
Matingwe Lodge - @matingwelodgelimpopo
Tenahead Lodge - @tenaheadlodgeandspa
Tsitsikamma Lodge and Spa - @tsitsikammalodgeandspa



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The NXT - @thenxtlive

WEB PORTALS

GROUP PORTAL | myfaithglobal.com

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Broadcasting



Ministry



Education



Events



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Learn Anytime, Anywhere. Accelerate Your Future. Always be eager to present yourself before God as a perfect and mature minister, without shame, as one who correctly explains the Word of Truth. (2 Timothy 2:15)

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ON CAMPUS

We want to invite you to join an army of men and women, young and old, who are ready to let their lives count for eternity – people who want to be used of God by the power of His Spirit to make an eternal impact on their generation.

[VISIT FAITH BIBLE INSTITUTE](#)



GAP YEAR

After spending an average of 12 years in some sort of educational institution, every young person is faced with one of the biggest questions of their life. What am I going to do now?

[VISIT BEYOND ADVENTURE](#)

OUR VISION

The IT / Social Media department is about creating user-friendly websites and to integrate the social networking into these websites. Our vision is to be a step-ahead in the technology field, by continually advancing in our abilities for web design and social media. Our vision is to impact millions of users who visit our websites every day and have them go away with the assurance that they can come back for more, to receive updated and continually evolving content!

OUR STRATEGY

We further our skills by doing constant research in the fields of IT and Social Media. Gaining resourceful knowledge through social media sites, various IT-related forums and blogs.

OUR FUTURE PLANS

The IT / Social Media department strive to achieve rich-content for users who are seeking information in all the areas of hotels, non-profit, media, business, real estate, TV broadcasting, and ministry.

POWER IS IN THE TONGUE

Nomvuyo Ketiso



One day I asked God, “Why do I have to lie about my circumstances and not tell it like it is”? He replied and said, “Because you will be lying about the truth”. I asked, “What truth”? He said, “My truth; My Word is truth”. John 17 verse 17 says “sanctify them by Your truth; Your word is truth. Wow a light began to shine in now. Light came into my darken understanding of God’s word and truth. As a child of God I belong to Him and now I believe His word and truth over everything else including the circumstances in my life. What is written in the Word is truth and I should believe that truth daily. I cannot and should not say that I am sick for one simple reason it is written that by His stripes I was healed 1 Peter 2 verse 24. That is the truth regarding your health. Have you ever heard the saying that says “power is in your hands”? Well in the kingdom of God it doesn’t work like that. Power is in your tongue; the words you speak concerning your life. In the kingdom of God your tongue, your words and consistent confessions are what manifest in your life. It is impossible to faithfully speak God’s truth over your life and be in bondage. It is impossible to speak sickness and live in divine health. That shall never happen.

Most people are suffering and in bondage because the light of God’s truth has not shine yet in their understanding. They have the power to change their suffering and be free from their bondage; the power is in their tongue. God’s word spoken in faith will eradicate years of bondage, sickness and poverty. People believe their circumstances more than God’s truth. Satan is the father of sickness, poverty, bondage and the suffering you see in the world. My question is to you, if Satan is the father and author of sickness; what does that make sickness to be? A lie from the father of lies doesn’t it? So do you believe sickness over the truth that God gave His only begotten Son to take sickness away from you and give you divine health? Do you believe what keeps you in bondage more than what liberate you from the lie?

Just because sickness and poverty are lies doesn’t mean they are not a reality. They are a crippling to those who experience them daily. Reality doesn’t necessarily mean that’s the truth. You can live your whole life in the reality of lies if you don’t believe and take what God has said to you in His word. I have always wondered how is it that God cannot

lie. It is because what He says becomes as He has said; if God would say green in a red cloth that cloth will become green. That’s the only reason God cannot lie. Whatever He says become what He said. God’s power is in what He says. Now that we are born of Him we are to imitate Him as our Father. Our Father created the worlds by speaking. What are we to do as His sons and daughters; create what we want with His word and the same way He does it. It’s one thing to have a sickness or poverty or failure reality but it’s another thing to be in agreement with it. See we are created to speak what we believe nothing else. You may say to people “well I’m sick but it doesn’t necessarily mean I believe that”. Well if you don’t believe it why say it in the first place?

There are people who are waiting for something or someone to come to their rescue while they have the power to set them free from whatever is keeping them from enjoying their life. Speak God’s truth continually over your circumstances. Tell it like is written in the Word and how it is in the kingdom of God. In the kingdom of this world when you have symptoms of sickness in your body yet keep saying “you are healed” you are actually lying. That is contrary to the kingdom of God; when you say you are sick you are lying that’s not the truth at all. Truth is, Jesus took care of sickness and the curse on the cross becoming a curse for us and completely redeemed you from it. Are you going to speak what is the truth concerning your life or what you feel and logic to you?

Nothing will change in your life as a born again child of God if you continuously speak sickness, fear, failure, poverty and defeat. You are not defeated in Christ; you are more than a conquer and victorious. You have to change your reality with a new reality, God’s word. The New Living Translation says it perfectly in the book of Colossians 3 verse 1 “Since you have been raised to a new life with Christ, set your sight on the realities of heaven, where Christ sits... What’s your reality and why? What do you continuously confess with your mouth? Do you focus on what you see and feel? Today take a step of faith; believe God’s word to be the only truth that will set you free from anything. Believe and confess that only God’ word is the truth over your life. Release the power with your tongue and see new realities and possibilities.

TRAINING A NEW GENERATION OF LEADERS...



If there was ever a time a generation needed **revival**, it is now, and there is a new wave of ministries being birthed out of revival that is about to sweep the earth. These are the true revivalists that God is **raising** up to proclaim the pure Gospel of Jesus Christ to their **generation** with signs and wonders following - men and women who are not satisfied with the status quo of religion and tradition, but who will run with God's **fire**.

We want to invite you to join an **army** of men and women, young and old, who are ready to let their lives count for **eternity** - people who want to be used of God by the **power** of His Spirit to make an eternal **impact** on their generation.

Some of the subjects **you'll experience**: Faith, Prayer, Leadership in Ministry, Bible Doctrines, Worship Lifestyle, Revival Studies, Gifts of Ministry of Helps, Stewardship, Excellence in Ministry, Understanding your Potential, The Name of Jesus, Soul Winning, Mission Trips & many more.

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Hey Kids



Hello boys and girls,

Jazz and I have been so busy working hard at school that mommy and daddy decided to spoil us with a movie day.

Does your mom or dad take you to the cinema or have movie days at home? Jazz and I do both. We love having popcorn and soda and sweets, but mommy doesn't let us eat it too often, just as a treat on movie days.

Movies are lots of fun especially when the whole family gets together to watch it. Dad usually chooses the movie and Jazz and I help mom prepare the treats.

We all love super hero movies, its filled with the good guys and the scary bad guys. The hero is always has such cool super powers that he uses to fight and defend innocent people. The heroes in most of these movies are also always invincible which means that no matter what the bad guy throws at him or her, guns, bombs, toxic sludge, anything, he can never lose or even die.

I would love to have those powers. Wouldn't you? When we accept Jesus and ask Him to come and live in our hearts we receive power. Much more powerful than a super hero even! We may not be able to fly or have laser eyes but we have the power to stand against anything the devil throws at us in life. So when we are sick we can ask Jesus to heal us. When we are sad we can ask Jesus to send joy into our hearts. When we are afraid we can ask God to make us brave. When we are struggling at school or with a friend, we can ask God to help us or send someone to help us.

Jesus, when He died on the cross and rose again, overcame everything that the devil can ever think up to throw at God's children.

So the next time you have a movie day and u see a super hero, remember that Jesus is the ultimate invincible super hero and that through Jesus and the power of the Holy Spirit we all have a super hero inside all of us.



Prayer

Prayer

Dear Lord Jesus, thank You that no problem that I could ever have is too big or too hard for You to fix. I love You because You chose me and You came to live inside my heart. You changed my life and now I have the power to change the lives of others as well. Help me to be more like You every day. Amen





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NO BAKE PEANUT BUTTER BALLS RECIPE

1/2 cup peanut butter
1/2 cup honey
1 cup crushed corn flakes cereal
2 tablespoons powdered milk
Set corn flakes aside.
Mix all other ingredients well.
Roll into balls.
Then roll again in Cornflakes until covered.
Refrigerate leftovers.
This is a yummy snack that's great with milk!



PEANUT BUTTER RICES

1/2 cup peanut butter
1/2 cup honey
1 cup crushed corn flakes cereal
2 tablespoons powdered milk
Set corn flakes aside.
Mix all other ingredients well.
Roll into balls.
Then roll again in Cornflakes until covered.
Refrigerate leftovers.
This is a yummy snack that's great with milk!



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BIBLE READING PLAN

WEEK 40 -52 | OCTOBER - DECEMBER

S•O•A•P



SCRIPTURE • OBSERVATION
APPLICATION • PRAYER

WEEK 40

- JEREMIAH 11-13; 2 CORINTHIANS 12
- JEREMIAH 14-16; PSALM 76; 2 COR 13
- JEREMIAH 17-20; JAMES 1
- JEREMIAH 22, 23, 26; PSALM 77; JAMES 2
- JEREMIAH 25, 35, 36, 45; PSALM 133; JAMES 3

WEEK 41

- JEREMIAH 27, 28, 29, 24; JAMES 4
- JEREMIAH 37, 21, 34; PSALM 79; JAMES 5
- JEREMIAH 30-33; 1 PETER 1
- JEREMIAH 38, 39, 52; 1 PETER 2
- 2 KINGS 24-25; 2 CHRONICLES 36; PS 126; 1 PETER 3

WEEK 42

- LAMENTATIONS; PSALM 137; 1 PETER 4
- OBADIAH; JEREMIAH 40-42; PSALM 147; 1 PETER 5
- JEREMIAH 43, 44, 46; 2 PETER 1
- JEREMIAH 47, 48, 49; PSALM 80; 2 PETER 2
- JEREMIAH 50-51; 2 PETER 3

WEEK 43

- EZEKIEL 1-3; JOHN 1
- EZEKIEL 4-6; PSALM 82; JOHN 2
- EZEKIEL 7-9; JOHN 3
- EZEKIEL 10-12; PSALM 83; JOHN 4
- EZEKIEL 13-15; PSALM 136; JOHN 5

WEEK 44

- EZEKIEL 16-18; JOHN 6
- EZEKIEL 19-21; PSALM 84; JOHN 7
- EZEKIEL 22-24; PSALM 134; JOHN 8
- EZEKIEL 25-27; PSALM 85; JOHN 9
- EZEKIEL 28-30; JOHN 10

WEEK 45

- EZEKIEL 31-33; JOHN 11
- EZEKIEL 34-36; PSALM 86; JOHN 12
- EZEKIEL 37-39; PSALM 87; JOHN 13
- EZEKIEL 40-42; JOHN 14
- EZEKIEL 43-45; PSALM 135; JOHN 15

WEEK 46

- EZEKIEL 46-48; JOHN 16
- DANIEL 1-3; PSALM 88; JOHN 17
- DANIEL 4-6; JOHN 18
- DANIEL 7-9; PSALM 91; JOHN 19
- DANIEL 10-12; JOHN 20

WEEK 47

- EZRA 1-2; JOHN 21
- EZRA 3-4; PSALM 92; 1 JOHN 1
- HAGGAI; ZECHARIAH 1; PSALM 138; 1 JOHN 2
- ZECHARIAH 2-5; PSALM 93; 1 JOHN 3
- ZECHARIAH 6-8; 1 JOHN 4

WEEK 48

- ZECHARIAH 9-11; 1 JOHN 5
- ZECHARIAH 12-14; PSALM 94; 2 JOHN
- EZRA 5-6; PSALM 95; 3 JOHN
- ESTHER 1-3; PSALM 139; REVELATION 1
- ESTHER 4-6; REVELATION 2

WEEK 49

- ESTHER 7-10; REVELATION 3
- EZRA 7-10; PSALM 97; REVELATION 4
- NEHEMIAH 1-3; REVELATION 5
- NEHEMIAH 4-6; PSALM 98; REVELATION 6
- NEHEMIAH 7-9; PSALM 140; REVELATION 7

WEEK 50

- NEHEMIAH 10-13; REVELATION 8
- MALACHI; PSALM 2; REVELATION 9
- JOB 1-3; PSALM 29; REVELATION 10
- JOB 4-7; PSALM 99; REVELATION 11
- JOB 8-11; REVELATION 12

WEEK 51

- JOB 12-14; PSALM 100; REVELATION 13
- JOB 15-17; REVELATION 14
- JOB 18-20; PSALM 141; REVELATION 15
- JOB 21-23; PSALM 101; REVELATION 16
- JOB 24-27; REVELATION 17

WEEK 52

- JOB 28-30; REVELATION 18
- JOB 31-33; PSALM 102; REVELATION 19
- JOB 34-36; REVELATION 20
- JOB 37-39; PSALM 103; REVELATION 21
- JOB 40-42; PSALM 150; REVELATION 22



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JESSICA DALLA TORRE: SPREADING THE GOSPEL THROUGH SONG



In the world of contemporary Christian music, Jessica Dalla Torre stands out as a shining beacon of faith and inspiration. Hailing from South Africa, this independent singer/songwriter has been touching hearts and uplifting spirits with her powerful voice and heartfelt lyrics. Her latest EP, 'The Gospel Is Jesus,' is a testament to her unwavering devotion and her mission to share the message of Christ through her music.

A Journey of Faith and Music Jessica's journey into music began at a young age. Growing up in a Christian household, she was surrounded by the sounds of worship and praise, which deeply influenced her musical style. "Music has always been a way for me to connect with God," Jessica shares. "It's a powerful tool for worship and a beautiful way to express my faith." Her dedication to her craft and her passion for sharing the gospel have driven her to pursue

music independently. This independence allows her to stay true to her message and her artistic vision. "Being an independent artist gives me the freedom to create music that is authentic and true to my faith," she explains.

'The Gospel Is Jesus' Jessica's latest EP, 'The Gospel Is Jesus,' is a collection of songs that reflect her deep-rooted faith and her desire to spread the message of Jesus Christ. Each track on the EP is a heartfelt expression of her love for God and her commitment to sharing His word. From the soulful melodies to the powerful lyrics, 'The Gospel Is Jesus' is a musical journey that invites listeners to experience the love and grace of God. One of the standout tracks on the EP is "Keep My Eyes On You," a joyful praise song featuring the renowned South African artist Loyiso Bala. This uplifting track celebrates God's blessings and promises, encouraging listeners to focus on Jesus

amidst life's challenges. With its energetic and positive vibe, "Keep My Eyes On You" is designed to bring joy and encouragement, reminding everyone to keep their eyes on Jesus.

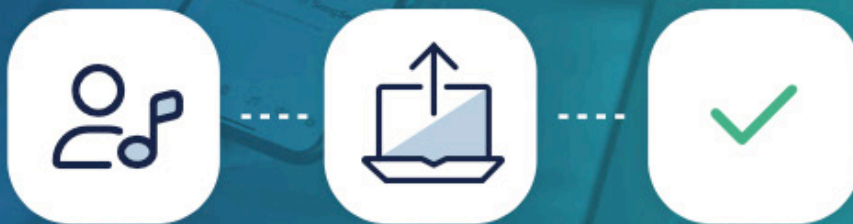
Connecting with Audiences Jessica's music has a unique ability to connect with audiences on a deep emotional level. Her powerful vocals and heartfelt lyrics resonate with listeners, creating a sense of intimacy and connection. "I want my music to be a source of hope and inspiration," Jessica says. "I want people to feel God's presence and love when they listen to my songs." In addition to her music, Jessica is also committed to engaging with her fans and supporters. She is open to Zoom interviews, allowing her to connect with people from all over the world. This willingness to engage with her audience shows her genuine passion for ministry and her desire to build a community of believers.

Looking Ahead As Jessica continues to share her music and her message, she remains steadfast in her mission to spread the gospel through song. With her unwavering faith, her powerful voice, and her authentic approach to music, Jessica Dalla Torre is making a significant impact in the world of Christian music. Her journey is a testament to the power of faith and the importance of staying true to one's calling. As she looks ahead, Jessica is excited about the future and the opportunities to continue sharing her music and her message with the world. In a world that often feels chaotic and uncertain, Jessica Dalla Torre's music is a reminder of the enduring love and grace of God. Through her songs, she invites us all to keep our eyes on Jesus and to find hope and inspiration in His word. For more information about Jessica Dalla Torre and her music, visit her website or follow her on social media.

www.jessicadallatorre.com



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SUNG WORSHIP: DIVERSITY OF THEOLOGICAL

OUR COMMON GROUND

Whenever people of the Christian faith gather together to worship, there's music. Pretty much no matter what denomination, flavor, styles, age, ethnicity, culture or location around the globe, it would seem that all Believers agree that we want to worship God through songs.

But while we might share that commonality, there is actually quite a diverse range of objectives - or emphases - for that music, and very different concepts of what ought to be achieved in the room in order for the worship of God to have occurred.

This diversity of emphases for sung worship within the Christian Church is a topic I have thought and prayed about - and wrestled with - over many years. In fact, my experiences in this regard have, in part, inspired the curriculum for More Than Music Mentor. More Than Music Mentor is the name I use for the online and onsite training I offer to the Christian Church globally - the singers, instrumentalists, and technicians especially.

Through More Than Music Mentor, I try to bring clarity and unity while celebrating our rich diversity within the Christian Church as we worship - or show the worth - of God through songs.

Now, I suspect that most church-attending Believers don't think about this too much. They would happily and inadvertently adopt the emphases their particular church culture places on sung worship. Perhaps their own, preferred style and emphases are a reflection of beliefs, experiences, how they were raised or maybe even as a reaction to how they were raised. In any case, most people have a style of worshipping God through songs where they feel most comfortable.

To me, this is not a problem. People are different from one another. God created us to be. This diversity, I would say, is down to stylistic preferences and peripheral theological values.

THE WIDENING SCHISM

But there are those who see these differences as being due to more than stylistic preferences and peripheral theology. Some will confidently declare a different approach from their own as "Not *real* worship" or words to that effect. Others, I'm sure, will simply hold that view internally or perhaps elude to their position in veiled terms rather than speak it out so clearly.

Want to see this for yourself? Just jump on any of the "worship" Facebook groups and look at some of the more contentious posts, comments, and conversations. You won't have to dig too deep.

Perhaps I hear more of this because of my work as More Than Music Mentor. But in my experience, it's becoming more common for individuals or groups to think that *their* values - what *they're* shooting for - with sung worship, is (or should be) the same for everyone. That *their* sung worship is superior in some way to others.

But I don't agree. Yes, we all want God to be worshipped, but surely music can be used in many different ways to worship Him. We worship a BIG God! I'm sure He can handle it. Thank God we're not all the same!

DIVERSE EMPHASES

Being a visual thinker (like a lot of people), I made myself a graph to help me understand this diversity. Since I travel a lot to serve churches of all different styles, flavors, denominations and theological emphases, the graph has helped

me have a better understanding of any pre-existing culture that I might be stepping into.

It's my goal to have sincere respect for that existing culture - no matter what it is - in order to serve as best I can. Understanding the graph helps me to "read the room" better, especially when I am asked to lead sung worship for a combined church - or ecumenical - event which often has a diverse range of people in attendance.

This graph - and the explanation that accompanies it - seems to be helping people get a clearer picture of what we're trying to do when we lead sung worship. It also seems to be helping individuals develop a respect and appreciation for others who might view sung worship somewhat differently from themselves. This, in turn, can help us better understand how to serve our *whole* congregation. To celebrate diversity rather than bringing unintentional division. To help the church be more as one as Jesus prayed that we would be!

"I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me."

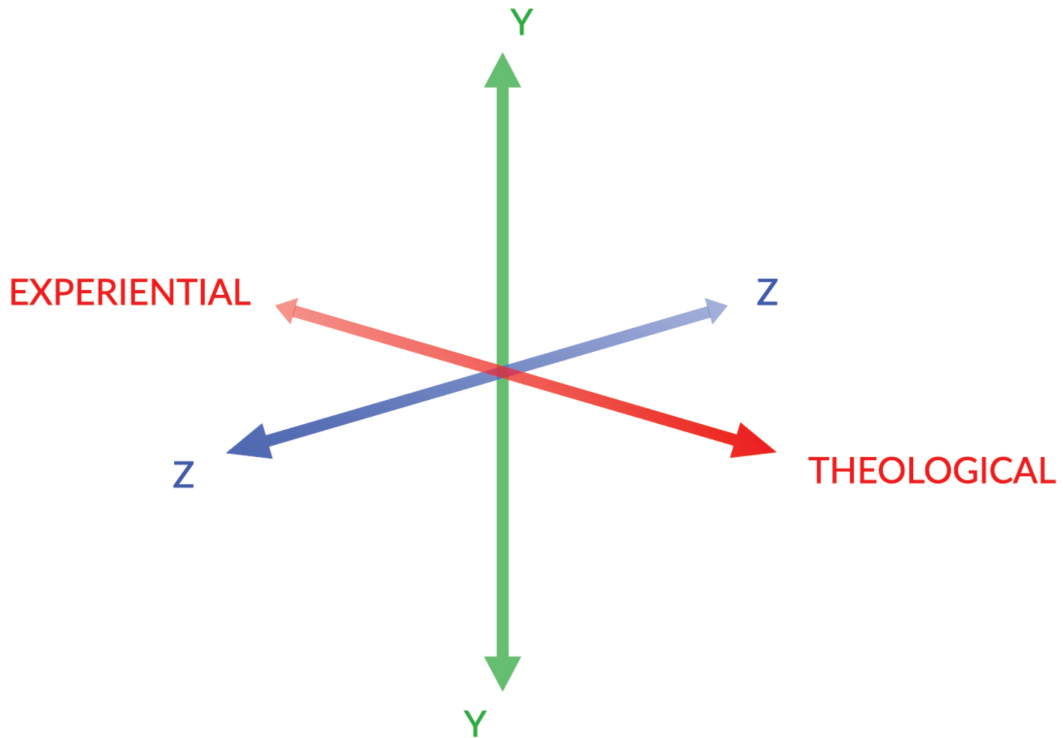
John 17:20b-21 (NIV)

So, over my next several articles, I want to share the graph with you!

This might look a little scientific at first glance, but I think you'll find that, if you take a good look and read my explanations, it should become pretty simple. So, here's my 3D "XYZ" graph SUNG WORSHIP: OUR DIVERSITY OF EMPHASES. In this article, I'll only label and describe one of the three axis points. The labels for the other two will be revealed in future articles:

EMPHASES (PART 1) VS EXPERIMENTAL

Grant Norsworthy



WHAT IS THE GRAPH NOT SHOWING?

Firstly, let me say that this is *not* supposed to be a definitive, entirely accurate way to categorize people, groups of people, churches, or denominations. Please receive this in very general terms and as the helpful tool I intend it to be.

It's worth noting that one congregation can include people whose emphases are placed very differently from most other members of the congregation, or perhaps even the church's leaders. This can happen as individuals, families or a circle of friends switch church affiliation. Or as churches change in their emphases leaving some of the existing congregation feeling like their preferred emphases are no longer being catered for as they once were.

Does the phrase, "We'd better have at least one old hymn," sound familiar?

And please keep in mind that peoples' emphases can change. I know mine certainly have over the years! My hope is that we can at least recognize and appreciate the emphases

of other worshippers even if they are somewhat different from our own.

WHAT IS THE GRAPH SHOWING?

From what I've observed, people who participate in sung worship generally have some preferences, biases, or emphases that they favor over others. They have particular goals or values when it comes to sung worship. No matter how strong these values may be, they influence their expectations or hopes for sung worship. This graph is my best attempt to show those differences visually.

Each Individual worshiper can be plotted somewhere on this three-dimensional graph. And since groups of people who agree with one another on these sorts of issues tend to flock together, it's also true that each church congregation would tend to have a region or "blob" on this graph. The same could be said of each denomination. The position on the graph could be as a result of many different things but would certainly include theology (understanding of God), Biblical interpretation, experiences and the established culture or musical worship.

First, let's look at

THE RED "X" AXIS: THEOLOGICAL VS EXPERIENTIAL

Some Christians have music in their gatherings primarily to teach and remind their congregations of correct theology. God's truth. As they sing, the goal is that they would come to know God more deeply. Understand The Gospel more completely. As they sing, their reverence and awe for God should increase. I call this segment of the Christian Church the "sing correct theology" team.

The song lyrics for the "sing correct theology" team tend to have a lot of words. Often intense, rich, poetry that digs deeply into Christian doctrine. While congregants may be deeply moved internally, they might not show it on the outside. They will tend to remain fully cognizant - mindful, reverent - as they sing.

Repeating a section of a song too often, or extended periods of instrumental music can easily unsettle the theological emphasis worshippers.

But on the other end of the "X" axis, we find

people who have music in their gatherings primarily to help facilitate experiences of God's manifest presence. Indeed, the "worship leader" is often described as having the task of ushering the congregation into God's presence - or of inviting God's presence to be with us - so we can meet with Him in a more intimate way.

The music from the platform should help create an atmosphere where people are more open to the things of God - especially the miraculous, supernatural things of God. I call this segment of the Christian Church the "sing it till you feel it" team.

Songs for the "sing it till you feel it" team tend to have fewer lyrics. More repeats. Simpler poetry. Repeating a bridge or chorus - even many times - is wonderful for the "sing it till you feel it" team. Periods of subtle, atmospheric musical textures, even without any singing (and sometimes just in total silence) are often used. Drawn out dynamic builds leading to powerful anthemic refrains can enhance this experiential approach.

The members of this team don't want to have to read a lot of words on a screen nor intellectually process deeper meaning from the song's lyrics. They'd prefer to close their eyes, be able to sing from memory or even sing or pray freely as they experience a deepening sense of God's presence.

At the experiential end of this axis, we may use song lyrics that invite God to manifest His presence amongst us. We may ask - even implore - God to allow us to receive more of His Holy Spirit in the here and now.

But on the opposite, theological side, worshippers would have a strong sense that God is omnipresent and that He has already completely and utterly given Himself to us. All of creation. His son Jesus. His Holy Spirit. The scriptures. Nothing more is required. To these worshippers, it might seem ungrateful and inappropriate to ask God for more.

CONCLUSION

But let me be clear: This red "X" axis is a continuum. The extreme ends will be very different, but most of us are somewhere closer to the center. Experiential people can also want good theology. Theology people can have experiences of God's presence too!

But some people are just kind of more "touchy feely". Others are more cerebral and "bookish". Know what I mean? It's okay to be different. That's how we were made. God loves us all. This side of eternity, nobody's worship is pure and perfect yet. Only God gets to judge that anyway.

I hope that's helpful. I look forward to sharing with you about the green "Y" axis and the blue "Z" axis in future articles. Stay tuned!

Grant Norsworthy
founder of MoreThanMusicMentor.com
MoreThanMusicMentor.com





PIANO CHORDS

QUICK REFERENCE

	MAJOR	MINOR	SEVENTH	AUGMENTED	DIMINISHED
A					
A^b/G[#]					
B					
B^b/A[#]					
C					
D					
D^b/C[#]					
E					
E^b/D[#]					
F					
G					
F[#]/G^b					
	A B C D E F G A B C	A B C D E F G A B C	A B C D E F G A B C	A B C D E F G A B C	A B C D E F G A B C