

Reaching Out

SPRING 2026, ISSUE 127

WELCOME TO REACHING OUT

a Christian magazine to serve the community. Our goal is to offer Biblical solutions to the problems facing society today.

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Help Wanted

by Clay Zimmerman

Driving past restaurants and other businesses, we see "Help wanted" signs. Business enterprises need employees to function. They are willing to give you money for your time. They want you to come and give your energy and effort to get the work done. What are your skills? What is your work experience? There is usually a resume to fill out so they have an idea if you are equipped to do the work. Sometimes past work experience does not matter. The only thing that is required is a willingness to learn and a work ethic that gets things done.

Spiritually there is another hiring process going on. God wants you. The devil also wants you.

First, let's look at the devil's hiring offer. "It takes no effort to work for me. Do what you want! No rules or restrictions apply. No requirements for honesty and no morality required. The pay? All the fun and satisfaction that you can grab for yourself. The retirement plan? We won't talk about that now. There will be a place for you with me in the future. Oh, there is just one thing. Don't get too friendly with Christians and

stay out of churches. That can be damaging to your career of following me!"

Now let's look at God's offer. It is totally different. "Come join the God and Son enterprise. We love you! We want the absolute best for you and will look out for you (Hebrews 13:5). But you will have to conform to Our guidelines. In fact, he that forsakes not all that he has cannot be Our employee (Luke 14:26). We want your complete dedication. It will require your time and effort; indeed, your very heart and soul must be here. The pay? Sometimes you might feel like the starting wage is not that good. There will be some tough times, but with them there is peace and rest. And be assured, the retirement plan is out of this world! In

Our employment strategy, you become part of the company! You will inherit all things with the Son" (Romans 8:17).

"Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him" (1 Corinthians 2:9).

Who do you work for?

"If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me."

Luke 9:23

Would you like to receive each issue of **Reaching Out**, or do you know of a friend who might? Send your requests to the church represented on your back page.

Do you care to respond to any of the articles? Send your thoughts and comments to:

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Reaching Out Published Quarterly, Issue 127, 2 2026

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WISDOM FOR YOUTH

The Failed CDL Test

by Gardell Strite



At the age of 55, I decided to go to a Driver's School and study to get my Commercial Driver's License (CDL). I had never driven a tractor and trailer and had no experience driving or backing a big rig. This turned into a bigger ordeal than I expected and included a couple of failed written tests to get my permit and a failed Basic Control Skills Exam (backing) test before I finally got my CDL. But I did learn a few life lessons through this experience.

The nicest instructors were not necessarily the best instructors. Some of my teachers were very nice and told me very little that I was doing wrong. These test drives were pleasant, and we visited and had an enjoyable time. But I did not learn as much from them.

The most abrasive teacher I had was Jeff. He would yell at me when I made a mistake. He did not hesitate to reach over, grab the gear shift from me, and ram it into gear while he emphatically told me all that I was doing wrong. He reached out and smacked my hand if I had it on the gear shift because I was supposed to have both hands on the steering wheel.

Wait a minute! This man was quite a bit younger than me. What business did he have treating me so disrespectfully? I hadn't had my patties smacked for 50 years!

After I went for my first driving test and failed the backing portion, I came back to the training facility to practice again. Which instructor do you think they assigned to me? Jeff, of course! He told me all the stupid mistakes I was making. But guess what, I didn't fail the test when I took it the second time!

Jeff had done his job.

"Reprove not a scorner, lest he hate thee: rebuke a wise man, and he will love thee. Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be yet wiser: teach a just man, and he will increase in learning" (Proverbs 9:8,9).

We all need to take instructions from others.

We never become so old or wise that we don't need the help of others. One of my instructors was young enough to be my son, but he knew a whole lot more about driving semis than I did. What if I had foolishly refused to take his instruction? I would have lost the money that I paid for the course and would not have gotten my CDL.

Youth can think that they are the only ones that must listen to others. They may tire of always being told what to do and wish for the time when they can tell others what to do. But we never get to a place where we don't need to take advice. Even the President needs to listen to others sometimes.

"Better is a poor and wise child than an old and foolish king, who will no more be admonished" (Ecclesiastes 4:13).

Never, never give up! After I failed my test the first time, I went back to the motel where I was staying, feeling a bit discouraged. *Jeff is right, I thought. I am extraordinarily dense. Most other people don't need to take the test again. Maybe I am not a good enough driver to get a CDL. I don't really need to get my license. I can easily live the rest of my life without it. Maybe I should just go home and forget it.*

Then I realized that to give up would be the worst thing I could do. That would negatively affect my outlook on life. I told myself, "I don't care how many times I have to try, or how stupid I look, I WILL GET MY CDL, even if I have to try five more times! I have failed, but I refuse to become a failure."

"For a just man falleth seven times, and riseth up again: but the wicked shall fall into mischief" (Proverbs 24:16).



WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY?

Were You Ever Pardoned?

by David L. Martin



Every Thanksgiving, the President of the United States pardons a turkey. The bird, which would otherwise have been slaughtered and served up at a table, goes unharmed. It's just an amusing little ceremony.

Other pardons have been more significant. Some people would not exist today if President Lincoln had not pardoned one of their ancestors. Obviously, the power to pardon involves a great deal of responsibility. Presidents and governors have advisors who help them to make decisions on this matter.

Most serious of all is the need to receive a pardon from God,¹ the judge of all the earth. And this need affects all of us, "for all have sinned, and come short of glory of God" (Romans 3:23). We cannot appeal to a higher court because the highest court is God, and He is the offended party. So we are in double trouble. Maybe we are in triple trouble because no human advocate can plead our case before God.

Does God Himself offer a way out for us? Yes, He offers a pardon, what one might call a "conditional pardon." You and I may receive it if we meet the conditions.

God's plan begins with the fact that gave his Son to live among humans, to walk about among them doing good, to teach them, and finally to let Himself be crucified by His ungrateful creatures. And here comes the mystery. Why did God

decide that this was the answer, that this would open the door to our pardon? That question has fascinated many people.

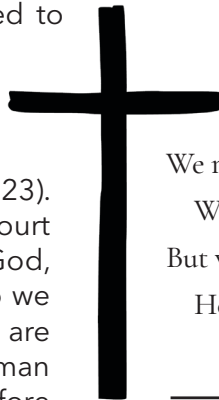
Some assume that God, instead of pouring out His wrath on us, poured it out on His Son. John Bunyan himself, who wrote the classic *Pilgrim's Progress*, had the idea "that Jesus Christ was not only to die a natural death, but also that he should undergo the pains and torments of the damned in hell."² Sorry, brother John, the Bible does not say this. It simply says, "For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God" (1 Peter 3:18). He suffered—oh, how He suffered—but it is going too far to say that the Father punished Him instead of us.

What did happen then on the cross? It would be interesting to keep on digging into the subject, but finally we come to the point where we admit we do not understand it all.

Whatever the understanding was between Father and Son, and however the transaction was made, it was made. God now offers to pardon us. And what are the conditions?

"Repent—Believe—Obey—Christ is the way" would never win a prize for literature, but it is at least a good memory device.

Repent: We must stop doing the things we have been doing wrong, along with the things we discover along the way that we are still doing wrong. Repentance is never a thing of the past. "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts..."



We may not know, we cannot tell
What pains He had to bear,
But we believe it was for us
He hung and suffered there.

-Cecil Frances Alexander

¹ The New Testament uses the words *forgiveness* and *justification*.

² John Bunyan, *Doctrine of Law and Grace Unfolded* (Choteau, Mont.: Old Paths Gospel Press, n.d.), p. 106).

Believe: We must trust God to forgive us. “. . . and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy on him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon” (Isaiah 55:7).

Obey—Christ is the way: We must follow the Lord’s directions from now on. Jesus asked, “Why call ye me Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?” (Luke 6:46). We also need to find help from godly people who are searching out how to obey the Lord in this present evil world.

This kind of pardon is considerably better than the pardon that lets a turkey go back to his old turkey life. It is better than the legal pardon a governor or president can grant to a condemned prisoner. This is moral forgiveness from God Himself, a pardon that completely wipes away not only the penalty but also the stain of guilt. It restores our innocence and prepares us for a perfect place where we will never again need to be pardoned.

What Does It Mean to Repent?

“Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out” (Acts 3:19).

The Bible underscores repentance again and again. However, genuine repentance is one of the most neglected and forgotten Bible teachings.

The Greek word for *repent* used in the verse above has the idea of thinking differently or reconsidering. This is similar to a dictionary definition of the English word *repent*: “To feel such regret over some past action as to change one’s mind.”

These definitions speak, not so much of being sorry, as of a change of mind or intentions. Genuine repentance is being sorry enough for sin to ask forgiveness and then, through the power of God’s Holy Spirit, to change one’s mind about sin and to do differently.

Genuine repentance has evidences or fruits people can see:

RESTITUTION. Restitution involves making wrongs right. The truly repentant person will apologize for wrongs he has done to others. The one who has stolen will steal no more. The liar will go back to those he has lied to and tell the truth. Restitution involves, as much as possible, restoring broken relationships with other people.

REFORMATION. Repentance always brings a change of action. If it doesn’t, then it is not real repentance. Reformation alone will not make a person fit for heaven. Repentance must come first, or reformation is a useless whitewashing with no change on the inside.

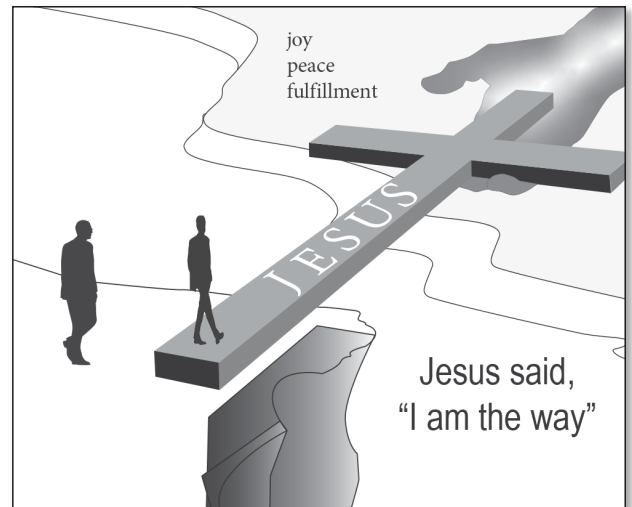
The truly repentant and reformed person will show by his life that God controls him. The Bible says, “For a good tree bringeth not forth corrupt fruit . . . A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good” (Luke 6:43, 45).

DETERMINATION

When we have truly repented, we will possess an inner urge to do right and shun the wrong. We will be driven by a zeal to do what is right. “Be zealous therefore, and repent” (Revelation 3:19).

Repentance is essential to salvation. The Christian must ever be ready to confess his faults, make wrongs right as far as possible, and bear the fruits of repentance.

“The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise” (Psalm 51:17).





THE BIBLE & SCIENCE

Noah's Ark: History or Fairy Tale?

by Denton Ford

By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.

(Hebrews 11:7)

Many centuries after Adam and Eve disobeyed God, bringing sin and death into the world, their descendants had grown so wicked and depraved, so rebellious toward God, that God announced judgement. He said that He would send a worldwide flood to destroy them. Only one righteous man found favor in the eyes of the Lord. His name was Noah. God told Noah to build an ark to save both him and his family, and representatives of all the land-dwelling, air-breathing animal kinds.

This is a well-known biblical account, but is it actually true? There are many who claim otherwise, stating that Noah couldn't have built the ark, the animals wouldn't fit inside, or even that Noah and his family could not have cared for that many animals on their own. In addition to these objections, many depictions of the ark show it as a small, cute, overcrowded boat, generally with giraffes poking their heads out somewhere. Is this just a nice story? Let's take a closer look.

Building the Ark

How big was the ark? The Bible says it was 300 cubits long, 30 cubits high, and 50 cubits wide. There is some uncertainty about which of the possible ancient cubit lengths were used in the ark's description, so we end up with a range, putting its length at 450 - 510 feet. The Bible also states it was to have three decks, and to be sealed inside and out with pitch. We don't know all the details, but it certainly was a large vessel.

But how could Noah and his three sons actually

build something like this? First, the Bible seems to indicate they may have had 120 years between the announcement of the coming judgement and the flood itself (Genesis 6:3). Second, it is entirely possible that they could have hired others to help them with the construction, and from a biblical perspective, there is no reason to assume that people in Noah's day were less intelligent or primitive. On the contrary, they may have been superior.

Did Noah Go on a Safari?

Some may wonder how Noah gathered all the animals from their various habitats around the world. Interestingly, in the creation account in Genesis 1, God commands the waters to be "gathered together into one place" (Genesis 1:9) when he formed the dry land. Could this imply that before the flood there was one landmass? There seems to be good evidence from geology that lines up with this. This would certainly simplify gathering the animals, but Noah didn't have to go find them anyway. The Bible says God brought them.

How Many Animals?

This may well be the biggest question when it comes to Noah's ark: How could all those animals fit? As we will see, the word "kind" is key. According to a report put out by the International Union for Conservation of Nature,¹ there are 2,173,939 species that have been scientifically

¹ International Union for Conservation of Nature: IUCN Red List version 2025-2: Table 1a. Last updated: 10 October 2025

described. Of course, much of that number is comprised with microorganisms, various invertebrates, plants, and other organisms that wouldn't be on the ark, since only "land-dwelling, air-breathing" animals were included. The number of vertebrate species, excluding fish, is 39,424 (this includes some marine animals such as whales and dolphins). However, this is still a very large number. Is this a problem?

"Two of Each Kind"

Remember that the Bible uses the word "kind." It appears the word "kind" here refers most often to the family level of modern taxonomy, not the species or genus levels. For example, there wouldn't be lots of different types of dogs on the ark, but two representatives of the dog kind. This lowers the total number of animals on the ark significantly! There has been a lot of research that has been done to determine how many animal kinds there were, with researchers from the ministry *Answers in Genesis* arriving at some very interesting numbers: Less than 1,400 animal kinds on the ark, translating to less than 7,000 individual animals.² Based on the average size and space requirements and the biblical dimensions given for the ark, there was more than enough room to house the animals, supplies, and people on board.

What About Dinosaurs?

As land dwelling, air breathing animals, dinosaurs would have been included on the ark, too. Of course, this brings up an apparent problem: some dinosaurs were massive! *Argentinosaurus*, a long-necked dinosaur, has been estimated to

get up to around 130 feet long. How would these enormous dinosaurs fit on the ark? Interestingly, dinosaur eggs are quite small. The biggest dinosaurs we know of appear to have had eggs around 6 inches in diameter. Even the largest dinosaurs started out small, and taking young, small dinosaurs on the ark answers this apparent problem.

That's a Lot of Animals to Care For!

How could Noah and his family (eight people) care for several thousand animals? While it seems like an overwhelming task, it is possible with the right systems. Compare this to modern farmers who sometimes almost single-handedly care for thousands of animals, because they have the right systems and infrastructure in place.

Conclusion

There is much more that could be addressed about the flood and the ark, but I hope that what is covered here helps to show that when reading the Bible's account of Noah's ark, we are not reading fiction or allegory, but a true historical account. In the global, watery judgement of Noah's time, the ark was the only way of salvation. Sometime, the earth will be judged again, and there is only one way of salvation. We all as sinners deserve eternal punishment and separation from God, but He provided a way for us to be redeemed through His Son, Jesus. Jesus came to this earth and died for us, rising again, so that if we repent of our sins and believe in Him, we can have eternal life with Him. Once again, God has provided us an "ark" of salvation. Have you climbed on board?

² Mike Belknap, Tim Chaffey, "Pocket Guide to Noah's Ark: A Biblical and Scientific Look at the Genesis Account" (Hebron, KY: Answers in Genesis-US, 2021) 52-53



Photo of the ark at the Ark Encounter, KY. Noah's ark may have looked similar.



THE CHRISTIAN HOME

From Chores to Character

by Caleb Martin

Your children are lazy and need to learn to enjoy work. Now is a great time to teach them.

"Why?"

I'm glad you asked.

We could start all the way back. If no one worked... but you can figure that out yourself.

Let's be more superficial.

I don't know exactly when it happened, but I eventually learned to enjoy work. That was a real gift. As my grandfather taught me, "You don't have to if you want to."

I've worked throughout most of my life. It's been intermittent, but still, it's been a long time and plenty of hours. Moving from drudgery to enjoyment is a huge improvement. Work is practically unavoidable after all. And all it took was a simple mind change.

Since enjoying work is such a huge improvement and simple to do, you should teach it to your children.

"How?"

Well, that's a difficult question. And I'm not sure I have all the answers.

I know that many fundamentals must be in place if you expect to make any progress in this field. Love, respect, routines, and boundaries are all prerequisites. If a child isn't sure that you love them, then you become an adversarial dictator through the process. If they don't respect you, they won't

obey you and that means work won't happen. If routines and boundaries aren't in place, they won't have the confidence they need to take up new responsibilities.

The first law of "how" is demonstration. You cannot teach them something you are not able

to demonstrate. When they see you relishing your work, they will want to work with you.

This introduces an odd dynamic that I find in parenting. I love my children, and I want them to learn to work, but I would often rather do the work myself while they play. I hope this isn't the case for you, but I find that children actually slow my work and many times they can't match the quality that I've come to expect. And so, it's tempting to send them to their toys while I finish the chores.

But that's not fair to them. They want to be with you. They want to experience the joy that comes from a job well done. So the norm should be that you actively look for ways to incorporate them into your work. Ask them to fetch things.

Think ahead to a project that they could prepare for. Look out for simple tasks that they could supplement. It might even be the "fun" part of the project that you were anticipating. And, of course, talk to them as you work together. Notice God in everyday life and teach

"Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might: for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest."

(Ecclesiastes 9:10)



them His principles of right and wrong.

Call them to new heights but never ask too much of them. This is a tightrope. I've gotten this one wrong plenty of times. When I ask too much of my children, the task is impossible and my orders frustrate them. But the joy of work comes from accomplishment, so introducing them to new tasks as they develop is important.

Several centuries ago, work was more closely tied to survival. Parents could not afford to raise idle children. Toys were scarce. Menial chores were plentiful. Water had to be carried, butter churned, chickens fed, firewood gathered, and food prepared.

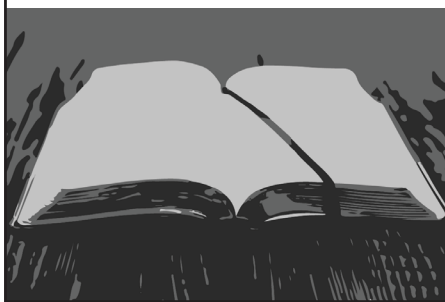
These days, you might need to go out of your way to provide regular chores for your children. You might need a few acres so that you can plant a garden, build a chicken coop, and raise a few dogs. Perhaps you can start a home business that allows the children to help. Perhaps you will let the dishwasher rest so that children can learn to wash the dishes by hand.

My mom let me hang out the wash, feed the chickens, sweep the porch, clean the bathrooms, vacuum the floors, bake bread, weed the garden, pick the produce, milk the cow, bring the wash in and fold it and put it away, gather pecans, sift peanut hulls, pick blueberries and muscadines, mulch flowerbeds, and, of course, do my homework. To be clear, Mom did most of the work. But she knew how to get us involved. Dad refused to buy a riding mower. He had too many boys that needed to learn to sweat with a push mower.

You need to show your children how to do a job a couple of times before they will be able to master it themselves. And once they have mastered it, you will still need to check in with them periodically to make sure that they completed the task and did the job well. If you find that they

“Fear the LORD thy God, to keep all his statutes and his commandments, which I command thee, thou, and thy son, and thy son’s son, all the days of thy life.”

(Deuteronomy 6:2)



grew careless, frustration will not help. Patient repetition goes a long way toward a successful child.

To my chagrin, my children don't usually work under "inspiration." Even though I hope that my leadership will rub off on them, I still find that it takes a firm hand to get them to work. There are two tools that every parent must use in these cases: the carrot and the stick.

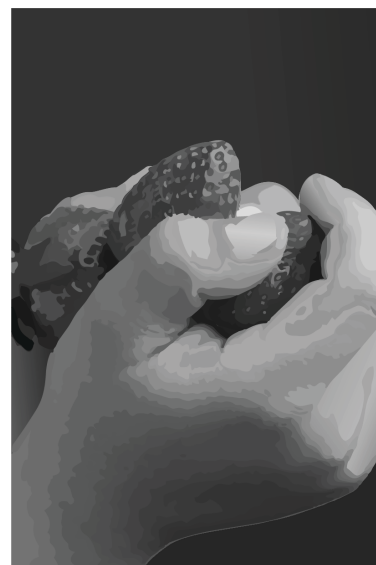
Somewhere in my childhood, I saw a drawing of a farmer using all his tools to convince his donkey to take him to town. With one hand he dangles a carrot just in front of the poor donkey's nose and with the other he uses a stick to beat the donkey when he slows. It displays exaggerated imagery, of course, but illustrates timeless principles which are the primary means

for teaching children to work.

But I want to teach my children more than simply to work. I want them to enjoy it.

Right now that seems like a tall order.

My hope is that if I provide a consistent foundation of love, respect, and leadership, the joy of work will come later. My children may not see it now, but I intend to lay the groundwork so that when they are adults, they see the work, willingly pitch in, and find the purpose and joy that comes from a job well done.





MONEY AND ME

Take Time to Consider (Part 2)

by Gary Miller

Often the purchased price is a very small part of the actual cost of an item. When I decided to pursue my pilot's license, I thought only about the price of training. But there are many ongoing costs associated with having a pilot's license. There are medical physicals, periodic flight exams, and the flying time required to keep your license current. Frequently renting airplanes to stay current is quite expensive. And besides the financial costs, there was the use of time. Being a good pilot requires time focused just on flying. There are airport updates to keep up with and newsletters to read and magazines to subscribe to. But when I originally considered becoming a pilot, I wasn't thinking about all of this. Many purchases in life are similar. Sometimes the original price becomes insignificant in light of the overall cost.

Think about the cost of storing all these items we take home. All of this stuff we keep dragging home has to be stored somewhere. I think about this every holiday season as I watch husbands stroll through the kitchen sections of department stores the week before Christmas. All those new gadgets are on display. The shelves display exotic bread machines, rise steamers, pineapple corers, and quesadilla makers. On down the aisle you can find French fry machines, salad spinners, and soda makers.

As I watch husbands calculate which new gadgets their wives would appreciate, I wonder how many times these items will actually be used. How often will they make French fries or bring home a pineapple that needs coring? Are they really saving that much time? And what about the other costs? Do they really want to clean around a bread machine every day? Do they eat quesadillas often enough to justify taking up that much counter space? Sometimes I wonder if most of this stuff won't end up in the garage in a few

months. It will get moved, swept around, and then finally end up in a garage sale to make room for more stuff next Christmas.

Sometimes the actual cost is greater than the purchase price. We pay in lost time, storage, and maintenance for all the things we buy. Before you make that decision to buy, take some time to consider the actual cost to your life. There is a blessing in simple living!

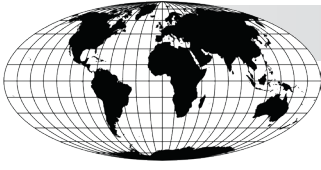
Make the best use of funds

One final test I would encourage you to take before making that purchase is to ask yourself, "From God's point of view, is this the best use of these funds?" This is not always easy to discern. A purchase may appear like poor stewardship to others, but in your heart, you really feel it is best. But other times you know a purchase is not really necessary and the money could be put to better use.

Make this query a habit. Learn to run every financial question through this sieve. Is this really how God would want His money used? You will find this little exercise can have a dramatic effect on your life. Don't make this decision on your own. Ask God for help. If you are going to avoid being sucked into the materialistic culture around you, you will need commitment and Holy Spirit discernment.

Learning to take some time to consider before making commitments is not easy. Sometimes it seems our society, with its focus on materialism and instant gratification, is almost too powerful a current to fight. But I encourage you to start applying these Biblical principles to your decisions. Choosing to live for the Kingdom as you make smaller financial decisions will establish a life pattern that will not only bless you but will also increase your testimony for the Lord Jesus within your community.

*From Charting a Course in Your Youth,
Published by TGS International,
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THE WORLD TODAY

Alive!

by Daniel Allgyer

Cold, pale, lifeless.

Funeral, burial, tombstone.

Tears, loneliness, heartache.

Death is real. Death is final. No one in the world today can change it. We all feel so helpless in the face of death. We are powerless to bring our loved ones back. No one has ever done it. It would take God to bring a cold, dead body back to life.

Centuries ago, a funeral procession crept out of a city toward the cemetery. A weeping mother walked beside the open coffin. Her only son was dead.

Suddenly, a man named Jesus approached the mother. "Don't cry," He said, touching the coffin. Then, addressing the dead body, He said, "Young man, arise." And he that was dead sat up and began to speak.

The funeral crowd looked on in wonder, fear, and joy. "Surely this man is a great prophet," they said. "God has come and visited us."

God indeed had come and visited the earth. Jesus, the Son of man, had power over death.

Several years later, Jesus Himself was dead—cold, lifeless, His body wrapped and lying in a tomb. Roman soldiers had crucified Jesus as a hateful Jewish mob taunted Him to save Himself if He was the Son of God. They thought if He indeed was God, He would not die. They did not understand that the test of Jesus' deity was not that He could not die, but that He could come alive.

Three days later, Jesus arose from the dead. The tomb was empty, except for the graveclothes that had wrapped His body. Many eyewitnesses, including the Roman soldiers, declared that Jesus' dead body was no longer in the tomb.

The disciples of Jesus, believing that Jesus was alive, were filled with wonder, fear, and great joy. What would be the evidence we would need as proof a dead loved one was alive again? Wouldn't

it be to see him, sit across the table from him, and chat with him over lunch?

Well, that's how Jesus proved to his disciples that He was indeed alive again. He appeared to them several times and ate some meals with them. They touched Him, talked with Him, and walked with Him. Many eyewitnesses confirmed that Jesus had risen from the dead.

And Jesus wasn't just seen of his disciples. James, a skeptic brother of Jesus, saw Jesus after His resurrection and believed on Him. Saul, the zealous persecutor of Jesus' disciples, also saw Jesus, believed, and was changed.

Yes, beyond reasonable doubt, Jesus is alive! Death was not final for Him. He arose from the dead, was seen by many people, and ascended into heaven. And for all people who die, believing in Jesus, death is not the end. We find great comfort in knowing that, just as Jesus resurrected, there will be a future resurrection of all who die in Jesus.

Jesus has promised to someday descend from heaven with a shout—a powerful call that will bring the dead body of every believer back to life! Alive again, they will be changed and rise into the air to live with Jesus, their King. And all living believers, at that moment, will also be changed and join the reunion with Jesus in the air. All will inherit eternal life—alive forever with the Lord.

"If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved" (Romans 10:9).

"For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord" (1 Thessalonians 4:16-17).

