

GETTING GRATEFUL

Dirty cop's change



Anthony Bryant

At one time Anthony Bryant was a decorated police officer. But a series of bad decisions saw him helping run drugs through town and eventually in a jail cell with a 12-year sentence.

In an interview for The 700 Club, Anthony shares that he was raised in the projects of Savannah, Georgia. His parents worked hard to provide for their eight children and took them to church every Sunday.

In high school Anthony worked hard to become successful. But in his senior year, his girlfriend fell pregnant, and the young couple married. He followed in his older brother's footsteps and enlisted in the United States Army.

"I took great pride in that uniform, kept it in pristine condition," Anthony remembers.

During his eight-year tenure in the military, he became shift supervisor, received various awards, commendations and recognition for successful performance of duty and leadership abilities. He was proud to be trusted with highly classified information. After receiving an honorable discharge from the military, he again followed his brother into law enforcement in roles including corrections officer, deputy sheriff, and county/highway patrol officer.

"Failure definitely wasn't an option," he shares. "My focus was my job – going to the next level professionally." But as he continued to achieve success at work, his personal life began to suffer.

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Whether your Christmas is lean, like the photo above, or lavish like the presents under this tree, we all have things to be grateful for.



This Christmas, the second Covid Christmas of the world, it could be easy to focus on the negative – maybe it is your first Christmas in prison and you are unsure of how many Christmases you will face behind bars. Maybe you are unable to have visitors. Maybe you are grieving the loss of a loved one. Maybe you are unwell yourself.

American author Max Lucado says, "The good life begins not when circumstances change but when our attitude toward them does."

If you are counting your blessings and remembering all the good things you do have in your life, it is easier to feel content. Your focus is on the glass half full, instead of the glass half empty.

Pastor Greg Laurie notes: "Studies have actually linked gratitude with a variety of positive effects. Researchers have determined that grateful people demonstrate less envy, materialism and self-centeredness. Gratitude enhances relationships and contributes to longevity and even our quality of sleep."

"If it came in a pill form, gratitude would be a miracle cure. So if we can learn to be thankful for what we already have instead of what we think we need, it could make us happy."

Contentment is not natural

However, that isn't our nature. The Apostle Paul said that he had learned to be content: "Not that I was ever in need, for I have learned how to be content with

whatever I have. I know how to live on almost nothing or with everything. I have learned the secret of living in every situation, whether it is with a full stomach or empty, with plenty or little" (Philippians 4:11–12 NLT).

Greg Laurie goes on to say: "Some things have to be taught. For instance, children are not naturally well-mannered. Instead, they are naturally selfish and inconsiderate. So we have to teach children manners."

"If you put a child in a room and give him a toy, he'll be relatively happy. But when you bring in another child with another toy, friction begins. They'll fight over the toy they've determined is the best one. Each child wants what the other has. That's human nature, and we don't necessarily outgrow it."

"So we see that contentment needs to be learned. It doesn't come naturally to us, because we're not naturally content."

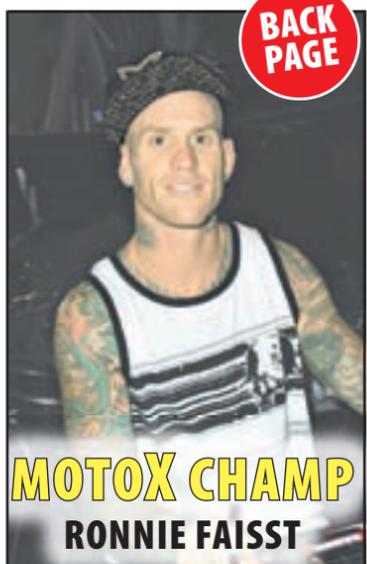
How do we learn contentment?

- **The first thing** to note is that our natural lack of contentment may be an indication, like hunger or thirst, that **there is something fundamentally missing** in our lives.

Famous Oxford don CS Lewis said: "If I find in myself a desire which no experience in this world can satisfy, the most probable explanation is that I was made for another world." The Bible says we were made for heaven and an eternity with God.

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BACK PAGE

MOTOX CHAMP
RONNIE FAISST



One of the keys to contentment is to give generously.

Getting grateful

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In so many of the stories in this paper, people chase happiness and fulfilment through drugs, sex, power or wealth, only to find that they are left more miserable than they were before. It is only when they find a relationship with Jesus Christ and have met that very deep longing to be loved and for their lives to mean something, that they find contentment with their circumstances.

Hebrews 13:5 in the Bible says, "Be content with such things as you have. For [God] Himself has said,

"I will never leave you nor forsake you." Once we are in relationship with Father God we can have the security to know that He is always with us and that He has promised to supply our needs. We don't have to be afraid anymore and we don't have to rely only on our own inadequate strength or ability to sustain us.

Being in a relationship with God also opens our eyes to the good and beautiful around us, so

that it is easier to be grateful. We appreciate things that we never noticed before, like sunsets, close calls and last minute provisions. Suddenly our circumstances are no longer random but ordered by Providence and life events take on a new significance.

GENEROUS PEOPLE ARE HAPPIER



Knowing God and believing He promises us a life hereafter, also gives us perspective. This world is not all there is and we don't have to try to cram all the good things into 70+ years. If we have to endure poverty or sickness now, we have all eternity to enjoy mansions and perfect health.

Hymn writer Fanny Crosby, who was born blind, famously said: "If I had a choice, I would still choose to remain blind ... for when I die, the first face I will ever see will be the face of my blessed Saviour."

Careful of comparisons
 • **The second key** to contentment, is to **be careful who you compare yourself to**. It is easier to be grateful and content when you remember that even having a full tummy and a bed to sleep in at night is more than what many people in the world enjoy.

However, if we fill our minds with social media posts of the rich and glamorous, or we constantly think of what other people have that we do not, then we are bound to feel inadequate and discontent.

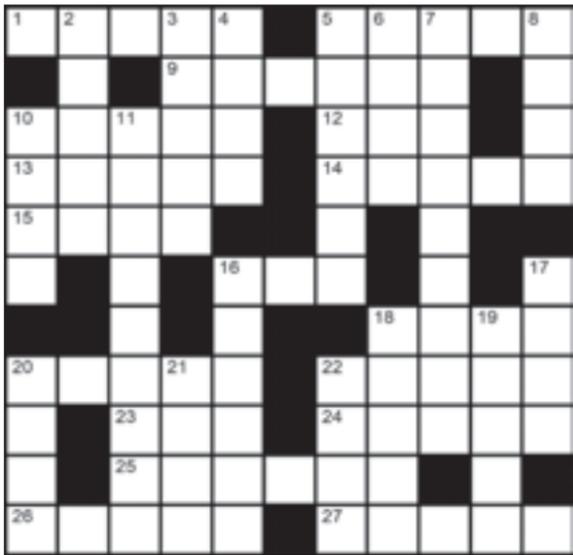
Giving is getting
 • **The third key** to contentment is to **give**. Generous people are happier, more contented people.

It was Jesus Himself who said that it is more blessed to give than to receive (Acts 20:5). When we are focussing on the needs of others and helping them, then we have less time and inclination to worry about stuff we don't have. We feel a sense of purpose and usefulness that motivates us, and we are reminded continually that there are those who are worse off than ourselves.

So this Christmas, instead of getting depressed or angry at the things you lack, get grateful by turning your life over to Jesus and focussing on all the good people, opportunities and circumstances in your life. And may 2022 bring you many more!

Coffee Break CROSSWORD & SUDOKU

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 10 Collectible
 12 Hoover's agency
 13 Put up, as a statue
 14 Speck of land in a river
 15 Meadows
 16 Place for fitness buffs
 18 Nip with your teeth
 20 Tooth edges
 22 Say "hi"
 23 Restaurant gratuity
 24 Airplane's walkway
 25 Cold old time (3,3)
 26 Person from around here
 27 A shaft from a bow
- DOWN**
 2 Blue of the sky



- 3 Long stories
 4 Quick jogging pace
 5 Certify as true
 6 Chem class rooms
 7 Skills
 8 Dewy fog
 10 Jailroom
 11 Sensible, practical
 16 Religious music
 17 Local fair
 18 Bramble
 19 Phone company
 20 Hip, groovy
 21 12-point type size
 22 Infatuated, doting

SOLUTIONS PAGE 7



"I hope none of you are feeling stress about this test. It's only 50% of your grade, 60% of your future and 100% of your self-esteem."

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Dirty cop changes

• From page 1

"I (was) still a good provider but just not a good husband," he admits. "As you build up power, you build up ego. As you build up ego, you build up self-reliance."

He began to have affairs and lead a double life.

Then his older brother approached him with a proposition – to escort some drug runners through town.

"I looked up to him and felt a type of allegiance towards him to say, 'Okay I'll do it,'" Anthony explains.

He wasn't concerned with getting caught as he had developed a 'Superman complex' – in his mind he was untouchable.

But it turns out, he wasn't. He and his brother were caught in a sting operation by federal investigators. Anthony admitted to attempting to aid and abet the distribution of cocaine.

"(It was) very humiliating," he admits. "It was indescribable to go from one extreme to the next extreme. It was the beginning of the fall for me."

While he was awaiting his sentencing, Anthony made a bargain with God. He would return to the faith he was raised in and give his life to Jesus Christ on the condition he was spared from jail.

"Okay God, I gave my life to you – now don't allow me to go to prison," he recalls praying.

But two months later he found himself in prison with a 12-year-sentence.

Again he cried out to God: "You did not hear anything I said! My kids are gonna grow up without their dad."

When his wife filed for divorce, Anthony hit rock bottom. He saw suicide as his only way out and began hoarding pills from the infirmary and other inmates.

"I was just gonna take them all and just go to sleep and never wake up again – that was my plan," he shares. "I heard this voice that said, 'Look under the mattress.' I pulled up the mattress and I saw this Bible."

As he began reading he realised it wasn't all about him.

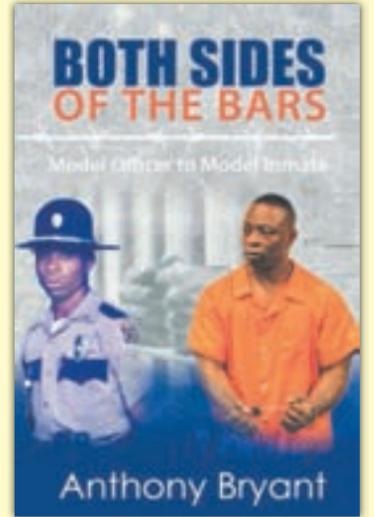
"I said, 'God I've tried it my way and I failed,' and I flushed all those pills down the toilet."

This time Anthony made the decision to give his life to Christ – on God's terms, not his. He turned his focus onto doing what God wanted him to do while he was in prison. He studied the Bible, led prayer groups and shared his story with other inmates.

He was released in 2008 with a new mission for sharing the lessons he learned on both sides of the bars.

He serves his community by teaching ethics and responsibility classes to law enforcement agencies, universities, and corporations. He also speaks at schools, youth events and parent groups about peer pressure and making right choices and volunteers at a youth detention centre and a homeless shelter. He has written a book called *Both Sides of the Bars*.

"That moment when I gave my life to God was a true transformation," Anthony explains. "God began to work in my life even then. I can see God has now placed me on even a higher platform but the difference is with Him I know how to exercise humility. God has definitely done a mighty work in my life and I'm grateful." •



'GOD I'VE TRIED IT MY WAY AND I FAILED'



Anthony Bryant now teaches ethics and responsibility classes.





Jennifer Smith shares her story of finding joy, forgiveness and freedom while in prison. Credit: YouTube.

Prison was where I found true joy

Jennifer Smith was 11 years old when she was introduced to drugs and by 22 she found herself in prison. Looking back now, however, she says going to prison was the best thing that could have happened to her.

She shared her story in a Revive Our Hearts YouTube video, explaining how people's words had impacted her throughout her life, from the moment she was born.

Ultrasound sonographers told her parents they were expecting a baby boy. They had picked out a name for their son but they were surprised – and disappointed – when the baby turned out to be a girl.

“They said one little sentence to me in teasing throughout my childhood, and it was, ‘You were a mistake, God was supposed to give us a boy,’” Jennifer shares. “Those words created insecurity within me. They created anger within me and they created doubts.”

She attended church with her grandmother, but she had begun to believe that God made mistakes – and she was one of them. She didn't want to have anything to do with Him. Then she was sexually molested for four years by a church Sunday school teacher.

“So now I had this heart that is very angry, very cold and very bitter toward anything that has to do with the Lord,” Jennifer explains.

At 11 years old she was introduced to drugs and was told they would make her feel better.

“I wanted to feel something different than what I had felt to that point in my life. So I tried it and it made me feel better temporarily, but when it wore off the next morning, the same misery was there, the same emptiness, the same despair. And so I began a lifestyle of drug use, and everything that goes with that lifestyle – relationships that were not healthy, living life on the streets, leaving home at 15, disrespecting, and not valuing anyone that spoke any kind of guidance into my life. I found myself just in a cycle that I could not get out of.”

Jennifer was arrested several times for drug possession, attended three different rehabs, and became a felon before she was 18.

At 22, Jennifer was sentenced for 12 years to the Arkansas Department of Corrections for drugs and robbery. It wasn't long before she discovered a group of women within the prison whose lives looked different to the other inmates.

They were a part of a faith-based program. “I started making fun of them like everybody else did,” Jennifer admits. “But secretly I was watching them. Secretly I was observing the joy

that they had in the midst of prison and that haunted me because I had never experienced that. I didn't understand how some of these ladies could have this joy in the midst of doing a life sentence and never going to be able to walk outdoors.”

After about a year, Jennifer decided to sign up for the program.

“If you can't beat them, join them right?” Jennifer says with a grin. “I began to hear things I'd never heard in my entire life. I heard a Gospel that said that it wasn't anything that I could do – I couldn't clean myself up enough in order to be accepted by the Saviour. I heard about a Saviour who knew no sin at all yet He became sin so that I could be made in His righteousness. I heard about a Saviour who died a criminal's death – my death. And the wrath of God for my sins was placed upon Him that day. He bore my sin and He paid that debt and all I had to do was accept what He had done and believe and trust that the work that He did on the cross was enough to free me from a lifetime of bondage of sin and the blood was enough to cleanse me and to forgive me.”

Jennifer remembers crying out to God in her cell and asking Him to forgive her sins.

“Now I had a new life in Christ and His Spirit resided within me [but] I still had the memory of who I was. I still had the memory of what I had done. And that's

why His Word (the Bible) is so precious, because it's the very thing that He says will renew our minds and bring transformation in our life, which I've so desperately needed.”

Jennifer learned about the importance of forgiving those who had hurt her.

“I had to take responsibility,” she shares. “I could not excuse and justify the decisions I'd made in life because of the way I'd been talked to or because I'd been taken advantage of and sinned against greatly. I could not use that anymore as an entitlement to continue to make bad decisions. After [receiving] forgiveness, now I had to forgive. And that was a challenge, but I needed the Gospel, I needed the grace of God, to be able to do that. Even today when I get offended, I have to forgive. Because I don't want to be bound in a prison of unforgiveness.”

Jennifer says going to prison was the best thing that could have happened to her.

“It's there I met Christ. It's there the Gospel transformed my life and it's there that I've learned how to live a life free in Christ, full in Christ and fruitful in Christ.”

After being released from prison, Jennifer returned as a chaplain for the women in the same unit she was incarcerated in.

I HAD THIS HEART THAT [WAS] ... VERY COLD



Forgiveness is the key

BY RICK LEWERS

IT was C.S. Lewis who said “everyone says forgiveness is a lovely idea until they have something to forgive.”

This subject goes deeper than the intellect, affecting you physically, mentally, emotionally, relationally and of course spiritually.

The absence of forgiveness is a Christmas spoiler, a home wrecker, an enemy maker and life destroyer. It is an essential ingredient to life that we all need but find so hard to give.

When Jesus was asked to teach people how to pray He could have suggested thousands of things to pray for but He taught some simple requests essential to everything in life and for 2000 years people have been praying, “Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.”

WHY? Because forgiveness is crucial for life and health and relationships.

That little line in the Lord's Prayer says a whole lot. It acknowledges that forgiveness is necessary because people do things that spoil relationship with God and each other – we sin.

“Forgive us our sins” makes clear we need forgiveness from God while “forgiving those who sin against” us makes clear we need to do it and others need forgiveness from us. It is true to say that forgiveness sets people free on all sides of the forgiveness equation. The head of one hospital said “I could dismiss half my patients tomorrow if they could be assured of forgiveness.”

Guilt is a very dark place to live in. It keeps people apart and stops people coming home. It makes us frightened of the outcomes of our actions and fearful of those we have hurt and the vengeance that might follow. We become

insecure as to our relationships, we hold back and perhaps even hide because of shame. Jesus taught such people to pray “Father forgive us our sins”.

Sadly we live in an age where people often feel no guilt or shame about sin and there is no more light in that darkness than in guilt. The tragedy for such people is they are blind to the hurt they cause. Jesus taught such people to pray “Father forgive us our sins”.

One group needs to know they can be forgiven while the other group needs to know they need to be forgiven.

The light in the darkness for both is that in this little prayer request, “Forgive us our sins”, Jesus expected God the Father would listen and answer.

Everyone knows of course that you can't seek forgiveness and just keep on doing the same things over and over. It is the common critique of the world that some people go to church on Sunday like angels and leave to live like devils the rest of the week.

Seeking forgiveness implies you know that you have hurt relationship, that you are sorry and that you can only hope the love of the one you have hurt will be happy to reconcile.

True forgiveness is asked for and given from the context of the heart that loves. As such the recipient of forgiveness is overwhelmed by the love of the forgiver and seeks to return such love in thankfulness and not in further sins.

Of course forgiveness costs the guilty nothing but it is never cheap for the forgiver. The forgiver must find it in their heart to cover the cost. The one who taught us to pray, “Father forgive us” was God's answer to the prayer. Jesus paid the price of human sin in his own blood and announced to the world that we are welcome to come home to God. ●

World Hope Ministries Mzansi
“Making known Jesus - The Hope of the world”



Physical Address:
106 Nurney Ave.
Crosby
Johannesburg
2092

Contact Numbers:
Tel: 011 837 3437
Fax: 011 837 9104

The World Hope Ministries Spiritual Care Programme consists of the following courses:

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| <p>BIBLICAL DISCIPLESHIP 1</p> <p>The lessons in this course will help the student engage the scriptures. This course consists of 4 books: Relationship with God, Fellowship with God, Responsibility to God and Accountability to God. Upon completion of all 4 books, one is issued with a bible in a language of his/her choice, and a certificate.</p> | <p>THE JESUS FILM</p> <p>This film which is based on the biography of our Lord Jesus Christ, from birth to His ascension, is screened by a World Hope facilitator as part of our course.</p> |
| <p>BIBLICAL DISCIPLESHIP 2</p> <p>This course builds on the foundation laid by Discipleship 1 and provides a deeper understanding of the word of God in the Christian walk. This course consists of two books A and B, each 13 lessons. A certificate is awarded upon completion of each of the books.</p> | <p>GODS ANSWER TO AIDS</p> <p>The purpose of this course is to enlighten and educate individuals of how to overcome the scourge of HIV/AIDS, based on what the Word of God says. This course consists of six lessons six weeks, engaging a DVD and a resource workbook. It is taught by a World Hope Ministries facilitator.</p> |

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Post to: PO Box 96176, Brixton 2019

College to prison to freedom

At 19 years old, Louis Dooley should have had his whole life ahead of him. But instead, he was sentenced to prison for life plus 100 years. He didn't even know what that meant at the time, just that he was never getting out of prison. But it turned out there was a different plan for Louis' life.

Sharing his story with the National School Project's Meant for More event, Louis said as a child he was bullied by children in his neighbourhood. But it was no better at home.

"My father was a physically abusive person," he shares. "He was an alcoholic, a drug user, a drug dealer, a woman beater and a child beater."

Louis' mother advised him that if he wanted to make it in life, he had to go to school and get good grades so he could go to college, get a good job and have a nice family and a nice house.

Louis knew that was what he wanted, so he worked hard to achieve it. All that changed in his sophomore year.

"I came home from school and my mother was crying. I said, 'What's up?' She said, 'Your father has just been murdered in a drug deal gone wrong.'"

Louis was devastated. Although he didn't have a relationship with his father, he had desperately wanted one. He felt robbed of what he could have had with his father.

"The hurt that I had inside me turned to anger and that anger turned to rage. I didn't really know how to cope with that as a 15-year-old. I felt in some weird way that if I became like him it would make me close to him."

Louis' friends had offered him drugs and he had been curious about it but fear of his father finding out had stopped him from experimenting. So after his father died he decided to try it.

"By my junior year, I was selling weed but by the end I couldn't sell weed anymore because I was smoking it all up. By my senior year I graduated from selling weed to selling crack."

He was making a lot of money dealing drugs and exchanged his dream of going to college for a dream of becoming a drug kingpin.

"I started robbing gun shops to protect myself and that led me on a whole path of doing drive-by shootings and all sorts of crazy things."

Louis' crimes caught up to him and he was arrested. He was found guilty of attempted murder and first degree armed robbery.

After his sentencing, he was taken to a dorm room. He found an empty bunk, where he sat down and reflected on his life. Another inmate gave him a cardboard box full of clothes and snacks.

"My first thought was, 'I've got to kill this dude. He's giving me something and if I take it he's gonna come back later and tell me I owe him \$1,000,000.'"

Louis went to the man's cell and was surprised to see him having a Bible study with two other inmates.

"I wasn't expecting that and he continued to read," Louis explains. "At one point he stopped and he looked at me and he said 'Do you believe in God?' I said, 'No man,



Although he once dreamed of attending college and becoming a lawyer, Louis Dooley became a drug kingpin. Credit: YouTube.

I don't believe in God, I believe in evolution.' That was just something I picked up in my local public high school. So he handed me this little pamphlet."

Louis took the pamphlet and left. That night he was afraid to go to sleep, worried someone might try to hurt him in the night.

He wished he had a gun so he could take his own life - preferring that to spending life and 100 years in prison.

Unable to sleep, he opened the pamphlet and read. It explained the Gospel - the Good News of Jesus Christ. Most of the concepts were brand new to Louis.

"I had never heard the word 'sin' before," he says. "It's a little three-letter word that's had the biggest implications this world has ever known. It simply means disobeying God."

The pamphlet quoted Romans 3:23, "For all have sinned and

fallen short of the glory of God" and Romans 6:23, "The wages of sin is death but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ."

"I had never heard of Jesus before," Louis admits.

The pamphlet explained that Jesus was born to a virgin, Mary, lived His life as a perfect human being and gave His life to pay for everybody's sins.

"He loved us so much that He gave His life so that we could have a life.

My life sentence didn't start in the courtroom, it started when I was born. You have a life sentence. You have an eternity that you will go to one day. It's either a place of bliss called heaven or a place of torment called hell... I decided to put my faith and trust in Christ."

The next day, the Christian inmates gave Louis a Bible and taught him how to pray.

Then he went to prison.

"I said, 'God I'm here now for the rest of my life. What are you gonna do with me? What can you make of this mess that I've made?' About six months later I got two more life sentences because one of those gunshot robberies caught up with me."

But that didn't matter to Louis - he knew he had sinned and was living out his consequences.

"(God) gave me a mission to proclaim His Word right where I was at - to represent Him right where I was at and that's what I did."

Miraculously, after 15-and-a-half years, Louis was released from prison. He did not share details of exactly why that happened.

"I didn't have a judge or a bunch of money or the prosecutor help or clemency or a pardon or anything from the president. They just let me go ... God does the unexpected." •

Drug pusher turns pastor

A former drug addict who was incarcerated, Pastor Juan Martinez shares how the popular children's story, *The Wizard of Oz*, represents his journey to salvation.

Juan Martinez needed to be the best at everything he did. And if he was going to be a drug pusher then he was going to be the best drug pusher ever.

The boy from New Jersey, who grew up poor and came from a broken family, set his sights on becoming a main distributor in his hometown, then neighbouring New York City and then the rest of the US. He was 14 when he began selling drugs.

Juan's strategy was as cold as it was cunning - he targeted families, beginning with the fathers. He would befriend them, become drinking buddies, go over to their homes and eventually ask them if they wanted to get high.

"Once I got the guy high, it was easy because now I'm invited into his home," Juan reveals.

Once he got both husband and wife hooked, he became their dealer and moved on to the next victim.

"Everywhere I went I destroyed homes, business owners, lawyers, dentists and I thought I did it best," Juan confesses.

"I felt that I was finally proving myself to everyone. It was this weird world, this prideful, weird world that made me feel like, 'yeah, I'm accomplishing something in life.'"

It was a twisted sense of success, but Juan didn't really care. As long as the money kept coming in, as long as he stayed high, he didn't bother about much else.

"I didn't think that the things I was doing were bad," he admits.

"If you don't think you're doing anything wrong, you just begin to chase after something that really will never satisfy you. But you chase after it anyway."

Until one day Juan heard a voice, a voice he didn't recognize.

This voice said: "Why are you killing, stealing and destroying the very lives I'm giving people?"

The question struck the hardened drug dealer like a lightning bolt.

"For the first time in my life I felt horrible," he remembers. "I'm just weeping and crying; right?"

"I still went and made my deliveries but there was a thought every time I handed it to somebody, you know? I would hand it to a woman and I was thinking, 'man, I'm ruining her life.' I would hand it to a guy, 'man, I'm ruining his life.'"

Juan, who had attended church as a child, believed he had heard from God. It was a dramatic turning point and sparked the desire to change, only he didn't know how.

A short time later, Juan was arrested for meth possession and landed in jail with a 25-year sentence. He was only in his 20s.

This was his rock bottom moment.

"I had nowhere else to go," he acknowledges. "I was at a place where I didn't have anybody."

As it turns out, he did have someone - a cellmate who encouraged him to pray and read the Bible, which he did. It made Juan weep.

"I got on my knees and confessed everything I'd done," he shares. "I was praying and thinking about the things that I have done in my life. I was like, 'I'm sorry, God. I want you in my life. I want this Jesus. I want this.'"

Juan surrendered his life to Christ and miraculously lost all desire for drugs. "I didn't feel like I had to prove anything anymore," he says with relief. "I felt like I was accepted and felt this love.



Juan Martinez with his wife Ruthy.

I was never the same again."

His sentence was reduced, and he spent his time in prison growing in his faith. Today Juan is married and has a family.

As the pastor of a church in Texas, he goes back to the very neighborhoods he dealt drugs in and shares the story of Jesus.

Juan says, "Jesus filled every void. When I didn't have a father, He was my father. Whatever has you running on empty, you can fill it with Jesus. Jesus wants to give you life."

He has written a book called *Beyond the Yellow Brick Road: Unlocking the Promises of God*, in which he retraces his journey from drug lord to servant of the Lord.

The title comes from *The Wizard of Oz*. In the book, the yellow brick road was the way home for anyone who was lost. Juan says to him it represents the Word of God and the importance of keeping close to the paths God has laid out in the Bible.

"I was a sower of death, and before my radical transformation for Christ, my joy came through stealing, killing, and destroying," he writes. "However, by God's grace (undeserved kindness of God), He planted in me a deep, burning passion to sow life where death once prevailed." •

Zulutranslation

Wayefuna impilo engunaphakade

U Simon Musebe uvuma ngowakhe ukuthi la ephuma khona kwakungekule. Wayezungezwe ubumnyama nokwesaba. Kwakuningi ayebhekene nacho kanye nokuba isigqila sezinto.

Kodwa namhlanje, ezisholo, "ngigcwele uthando, nentokoza kanye nokuthula komphumulo!"

Lenguquko emangalisayo yenzeka kanjani?

USimon ukhuluma ngezinto ezazimhlupha ngaphambi kokuthi kube noshintsho empilweni yakhe. "Ngangicabanga ukuthi konke kuhamba kahle nesono siyinxenye yempilo. Izone ezazimbambile kwakuwukuxegelwa isimo, utshwala, amanga, ulaka, umona nokungathetheleli."

Usitshela ngesikhathi elala nowesifazane owayeyilunga lebandla okwakufanele ngabe uphila esifungweni sokuthembeka. "Wakuphinda lokho inyanga eziyisithupha", ezisholo. "Ngangiyisidakwa, esinamanga, esithanda ubumnandi ukudlula yonke into. Kodwa lokuziphatha akumlethelanga intokoza."

USimon wakhulela ekhaya lenkolo, kodwa wayengenabudlelwano noJesu. Kwakunzima ukumamukela uNkulunkulu ngenxa yomndeneni wakhe, owawukholwa, kodwa wamlaxaza ngaphandle.

Lokhu kwashintsha ngo 1994. Abafundi base Nyuvesi babenecrusade la umfundisi wayeshumayela emakethe, Ngamenywa ngaya. Ilapho ngezwa khona ngoNKULUNKULU ophilayo"

USimon utshele I Challenge ukuthi uJesu wafela ukusisindisa ezonweni zethu, kwamthusa ukuthi kuyokwenzekani ngaye uma eshona. "Angifunanga ukufela ezonweni zami! Ngangazi ukuthi ngiyisoni! Ngangifuna impilo engapheliyo ku Jesu Kristu."

USimon wenza isinqumo esashintsha impilo yakhe yonke. Ngabona ukuthi ngiyisini esidinga ukuthethelelwa ngokuphenduka ezonweni zakhe."

Namanje, uSimon ubambeleva kuleliyavesi ngokukaJohane 3:16 ngoba likhuluma ngalokhu ayekudinga uma ehlangana noJesu okokuqala. "uNkulunkulu walithanda izwe kangaka waze wanikela ngeNdodana yakhe ezelwe yodwa, ukuba yilowo nalowo okholwa Iyo angabhubhi kepha abe nokuphila okuphakade."

Wathi angakholwa kuJesu, impilo yakhe yaguquka yonke. "Ngalangazela ukhlanganyela nabantu abazi uJesu njengoMsindisi wabo, ngalangazela ukufunda izwi likaNkulunkulu, kanye nokumfumisa ngimkhonze."

USimon unothando lokukhuluma ngalodaba lukaJESU olumangazayo nabantu. "Ngifuna ukutshela labo abangamazi uKristu ngothando lwakhe! uJesu Kristu usithanda sonke noma sibuthakathaka futhi uthethelela izono zethu. Uyindlela, neqiniso nokuphila {Johane 14:6}

USimon ushiya abafundi nalesisinqiniseko, "uNkulunkulu wethembekile noma thina singathembekanga kuYena. Sinokuphila okuphakade nosathane angeke asephuca kona. Phezu kwalelidwala ngizolakha ibandla lami nama-sango esihogo angeke amelana nalo {Mathewu 16:18}."

Die soeke na die ewige lewe

Afrikaans translation

Simon Musebe erken dat sy lewe rof en woes was. Hy was diep onderdompel in donkerte en wanhoop. Hy was vasgevang in verslawings en het met persoonlike probleme gesukkel.

Maar vandag sê hy, "Ek is vol liefde, vreugde en vrede."

Hoe het hierdie ongelooflike transformasie plaasgevind?

Simon vertel van sommige probleme waarmee hy gesukkel het voordat die 180 grade omkeer

in sy lewe plaasgevind het. "Ek het gedink dat alles in my lewe normaal was, en sonde was net deel daarvan.

Spesifieke sonde waarmee ek probleme gehad het was seksuele immoraliteit,

alkohol verslawing, steel, lieg, woede, jaloesie en onvergewensgesindheid."

Hy vertel van 'n tyd toe hy saam met 'n vrou geslaap het wat lid was van 'n godsdienstige gemeenskap wat onder die gelofte van kuisheid moes leef. "Ek het dit 'n paar keer oor 'n tydperk van ses maande gedoen," sê hy. "Ek was dronk, het leuens vertel, en het plesier liefgehad bo enige iets anders. Maar hierdie gedrag het my nie vreugde verskaf nie."

Simon het groot geword in 'n tradisionele, godsdienstige huis, maar hy het nie geweet hoe om 'n persoonlike verhouding met Jesus te hê nie. Hy het dit moeilik gevind om God ernstig te aanvaar, want sy familie wie veronderstel was om godsdienstig te wees, het hom verwerp.

In 1994 het dinge drasties vir Simon verander. 'n Paar universiteits studente het 'n uitreik gereël, en pastore het by die markplein gepraat. "Ek het die uitnodiging aanvaar en het die uitreik bygewoon. Daar het ek vir die eerste keer gehoor van die ware en die lewende God."

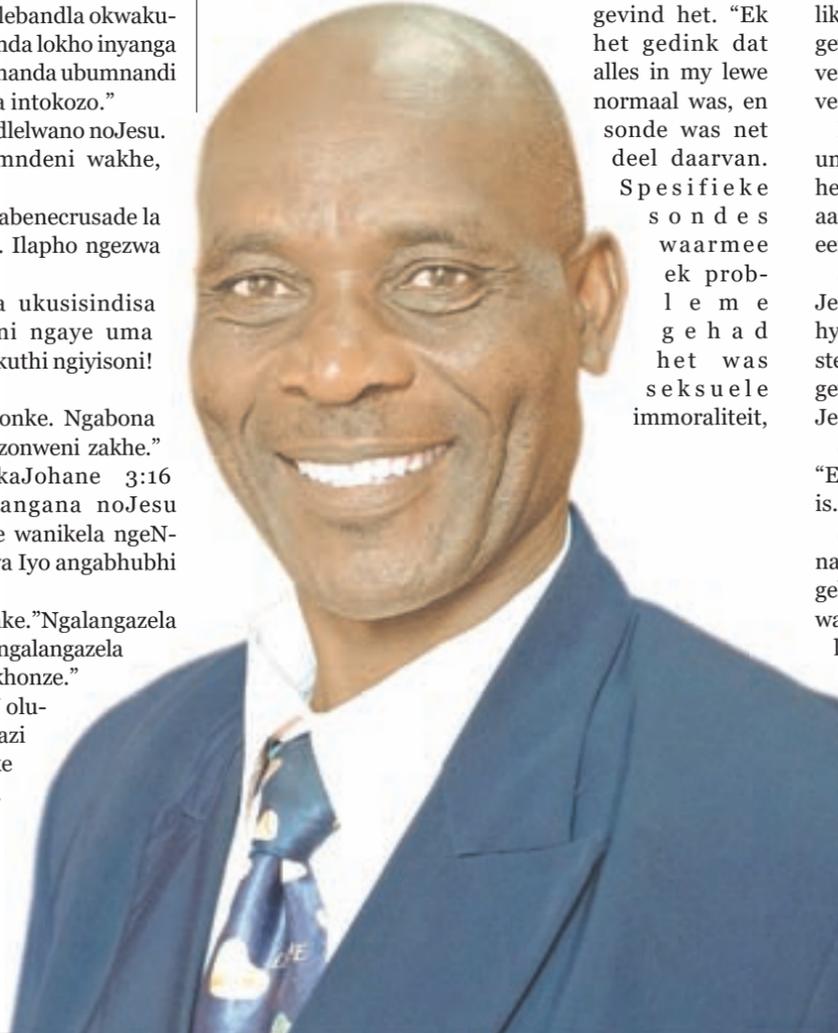
Simon vertel vir Challenge dat toe hy gehoor het van Jesus wat gesterf het om ons van ons sondes te red, was hy angsbevangen oor wat met hom sou gebeur het as hy sterf. "Ek wou nie in my sonde doodgaan nie! Ek het geweet dat ek 'n sondaar is! Ek wou die ewige lewe in Jesus Christus hê."

So het Simon 'n lewens veranderende besluit gemaak. "Ek het besef dat ek 'n sondaar is, en dat vergifnis nodig is. Deur bekering het ek weggedraai van al my sondes."

Selfs nou hou Simon die Bybel teks Johannes 3:16 naby aan sy hart vas: "Want so lief het God die wêreld gehad dat Hy sy eniggebore Seun gegee het, sodat elkeen wat in Hom glo, nie verlore mag gaan nie, maar die ewige lewe kan hê." Dit spreek oor wat hy verlang het toe hy Jesus vir die eerste keer ontmoet het.

Sy lewe het heeltemaal verander toe hy in Jesus begin glo het. "Ek wil graag meng met mense wat Jesus as hulle persoonlike saligmaker ken. Ek het 'n begeerte om die Woord van God te lees, en ek wil Hom loof en prys."

Simon is passievol om sy wonderlike storie van Jesus met ander te deel, "Ek wil vir hulle wat nie vir Christus ken nie vertel van Sy liefde vir hulle! Jesus Christus het ons almal lief ten spyte van ons swakhede en Hy vergewe ons ons sondes. Hy is die weg, die waarheid en die lewe. Johannes 14:6" •



Englishtranslation

The search for eternal life

Simon Musebe readily admits that he has a rough and rocky past. He wallowed in darkness and despair. He struggled with addictions and personal issues.

Yet today, he exclaims, "I am filled with love, joy and peace of mind!"

How did this amazing transformation take place?

Simon talks about some of the things he struggled with prior to the 180 degree about-turn in his life. "I thought things were normal and sinning was just part of life. Specific sins I had problems with were sexual immorality, alcohol addiction, stealing, lying, anger, jealousy and unforgiveness."

He tells of the time he slept with a woman who was a member of a religious community and who was supposed to be living under a vow of chastity. "I did so several times over the course of six months," he says. "I was a drunkard, spoke lies and loved pleasure more than anything else. But this behaviour did not give me joy."

Simon had grown up in a tra-

ditional, religious home but did not know how to have a personal relationship with Jesus. He found it hard to take God seriously because his family members, who were supposed to be religious, rejected him.

Then, in 1994, things dramatically shifted for Simon. "Some university students had organised a crusade and were having pastors speak at the market places. I followed the invitation and went to the crusade. It was there that I first heard about the true and living God."

Simon tells Challenge that when he heard about Jesus dying to save us from our sins, he was petrified about what would happen to him once he died. "I did not want to perish in my sins! I knew I was a sinner! I wanted everlasting life in Jesus Christ."

So Simon made a life-changing decision. "I realised that I was a sinner and needed to be forgiven of my sins by repenting [turning away] from all my sins."

Even now, Simon holds the Bible verse, John 3:16, close to his heart

because it talks about what he had longed for when he met Jesus for the first time. "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life."

Once he became a believer in Jesus, his life completely changed. "I desire to have fellowship with people who know Christ as their personal Saviour, I desire to read the Word of God, and I desire to worship and give praise to Him."

Simon is passionate about sharing this amazing story of Jesus with others, "I want to tell those who don't know Christ about His love for them! Jesus Christ loves us all despite our weakness and forgives our sins. He is the way, the truth, and the life. (John 14:6)."

Simon leaves his readers with this last assurance, "God is faithful to us even when we are not faithful to Him. We have eternal life that the devil cannot snatch from us. Upon this rock I will build my church and the gates of hell will never prevail against it (Matthew 16:18)." •

Saved from addictions

Zachary Tengecha's life started out rough and rocky. Before he knew any better, he was doing whatever he wanted. He was caught in some dark places but it was during these lows that he found the way to the light.

Zac talks about the issues that encompassed his childhood. "I was born into a non-believing family where there was a lot of drinking alcohol and abuse."

He himself became addicted to drinking alcohol at a young age. "I struggled with this addiction and frequently lied to my parents and other people," he says.

Zac had not heard much about God or spirituality until he was in primary school. "A Christian union group came to my school," he says. "I heard the message of salvation: that Jesus Christ had come to die for sinners. I realised I was a sinner."

Zac wanted a change in his life so he decided to

become a Christian. "I confessed my sins and surrendered my life to Jesus."

Big changes happened in Zac's life. "I left behind the dirty things I was doing like drinking alcohol, lying, and having bad friends and influences."

Zac says it was hard to stay close to Jesus sometimes, especially when his former friends visited him. "They wanted me to compromise my Christian faith and join them in their traditional beliefs and customs. But Jesus gives me the strength to face these challenges."

Now, the 37-year-old works as a chaplain and shares the story of Jesus with everyone he can. He shares something that is close to his heart, "My favourite Bible verse is Psalms 27:4 which says, 'One thing I have asked of the Lord, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to inquire in His temple.'" •



WORDS FOR THE HEART

STUDIES IN THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

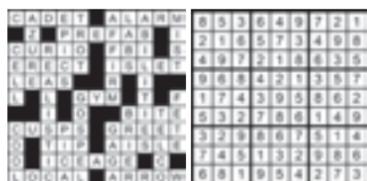
Welcome to this Bible Study. Read slowly what I have written. If you have a Bible, look up the reference verses given, and allow the Holy Spirit to minister to your soul through them. - ALAN BAILEY

John 12:42 - 13:17

INTRODUCTION

We have reached the last week of Christ's life on earth. It is a very full week when He teaches vital, life-changing truth. John makes it clear that there are many hard hearts that are refusing the truth Jesus brings. There are others who are listening and believing. We will see how events are leading up to that crucial time when the Lord pays the supreme price on the cross. He states clearly that this is the reason He came to earth.

Chapter 12, Verses 42, 43 At the same time many even among the leaders believed in Him. But because of the Pharisees they would not confess their faith for fear they would be put out of the synagogue; for they loved



the praise from men more than praise from God.

It is interesting to note that there were leaders among the Jews who were convinced that Jesus was who He claimed to be. But how sad to think that they thought more of their own reputations and positions, rather than be seen as disciples of Christ. Following Christ calls for courage.

Verses 44-46 Then Jesus cried out, "When a man believes in me, he does not believe in me only, but in the one who sent me. When he looks at me, he sees the one who sent me. I have come into the world as a light, so that no-one who believes in me should stay in darkness."

We notice that Jesus constantly refers to His Father. In so doing, He shows the closeness of the relationship of Father and Son; so close that He is able to say they are one. This points us to the mystery of the Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Not three Gods, but three persons in one being. Thank God for

the light coming into the world.

Verses 47-50 As for the person who hears my words but does not keep them, I do not judge him. For I did not come to judge the world, but to save it. There is a judge for the one who rejects me and does not accept my words; that very word which I spoke will condemn him at the last day. For I did not speak of my own accord, but the Father who sent me commanded me what to say and how to say it. I know that his command leads to eternal life. So whatever I say is just what the Father has told me to say.

How important is the Word of God! Ignoring or rejecting it is to bring the unbeliever into judgment. No-one who has heard the Word can claim that they don't know the way of salvation. They are left without excuse. The message of the Gospel sets out the way of life and the way of death. We choose to listen and obey or do otherwise

Chapter 13, Verse 1 It was just before the Passover Feast. Jesus knew that the time had come for Him to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved His own who were in the world, He now showed them the full extent of His love.

Jesus often referred to the right hour for his passion and death. He now knew that the hour was near. We marvel at His love. These men had proved themselves to be very unreliable, slow to learn, rivalling each other for a place of importance and having normal human weaknesses. But His love was strong, constant and sacrificial. Think about ourselves at this moment. He loves us in the same way.

Verses 2-5 The evening meal was being served, and the devil had already prompted Judas Iscariot, son of Simon, to betray Jesus. Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under His power, and that He had come from God and was returning to God. So He got up from the meal, took off His outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around His waist. After that, He poured water into a basin and began to wash His disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around Him.

Washing of feet was a common practice as people wore sandals in

the sandy countryside. It was looked upon as a chore usually done by servants. So the disciples would have been greatly surprised that their Master would do this service. Yet it was not anything foreign to Jesus as He showed that He had come to serve, not to be served. It was an act of grace and love. No doubt each man felt a little strange as it took place but he would remember the occasion powerfully. Note that Judas the betrayer was one of them.

Verses 6-9 He came to Simon Peter who said to Him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" Jesus replied, "You do not realise now what I am doing, but later you will understand." "No," said Peter, "you shall never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no part with me." "Then Lord," Simon replied, "not just my feet but my hands and my head as well!"

Peter felt unworthy of this action. He would rather it didn't happen. But Jesus was teaching something they all had to learn and, at the same time, in a symbol, pronouncing them clean from inward defilement. So Peter needed to be part of this action. Realising it, he expressed his strong desire to be in harmony with Jesus.

Verses 10, 11 Jesus answered, "A person who has had a bath needs only to wash his feet; his whole body is clean. And you are clean, though not every one of you." For He knew who was going to betray Him, and that was why He said not everyone was clean.

These words confirm the thought that inward cleansing was also in view. But it didn't apply to Judas. We will never understand why a follower of Jesus could be so treacherous. We can think of Judas' love of money and his desire to see the Romans overcome, but we can never understand how he could deliver the Lord into the hands of those who were determined to kill Him.

Verses 12-15 When He had finished washing their feet, He put on His clothes and returned to His place.



"Do you understand what I have done for you?" He asked them. You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord', and rightly so, for that is what I am. Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you.

What Jesus did was to model kindness and humility. He wants them to understand that these qualities are to be copied. No-one is too great to be a servant of others. In fact, greatness bows to the needs it sees and does something about them. So these disciples, so prone to compete with each other, are bidden to follow Jesus' example and kneel down and serve each other.

Verses 16 and 17 "I tell you the truth, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. Once you understand these things, you will be blessed if you do them."

Jesus underlines what He has said about masters and servants. The relationships exist, but humble service should be shown to all.

CONCLUSION

Confronted with the life of Jesus, we cannot help but admire and wonder at such a Person. How could we think of Him as being just an ordinary man among men? He is so wise, so deep, so different, so perfect. And we could go on. Yet He faced an agonising death at the hands of sinners. We will read more about that as we go on.

HOW DO I BECOME A CHRISTIAN?

What? Salvation is an eternal relationship with God – now on Earth and, after we die, in Heaven.

The Lord Jesus says: "I tell you the truth. Everyone who believes in Me has eternal life." John 6:47

"In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." John 16:33

Who? Anyone can gain the eternal life offered through Jesus Christ, regardless of how you have previously lived or what you have previously believed.

God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16

Why? Because sin separates us from a holy God. Sin is all the wrong things we do, say and think, as well as our desire to be our own boss.

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. Roman 3:23

How? The Bible says you become a Christian by confessing with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believing in your heart that God raised Him from the dead.

If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved. Romans 10:8b-10

Ready to change your life forever? Here is a prayer you can pray, but you can also use your own words. The words are not as important as the heart attitude – which only God can see.

Almighty God, Creator of Heaven and Earth,

I acknowledge that I am a sinner. Please forgive me for all the ways I have disobeyed and defied You.

Thank You for sending Your Son, Jesus Christ, to earth to live the perfect life I couldn't, and die on the cross for my sins. Thank You that His blood was sufficient to pay my debt to You, and His resurrection proves that there is life beyond death. I accept that His sacrifice is all I need to get right with You – I bring nothing I have done but I give you everything I am. Help me to live for You. Please be my Saviour and my Master. Amen.

What now?

1. Tell someone - either a fellow prisoner who is a Christian, or your Prison Chaplain.
2. Ask a friend or family member to bring you a Bible. Ask the Prison Chaplain to sign you up to a correspondence discipleship program.
3. Keep praying. Talk to God anywhere, about anything. He is always listening, and you don't need a formula.
4. Find out if your prison has church services and attend them regularly.

AS A NEXT STEP:

I have prayed this prayer.

Please send me:

- Bible portion
 Some 'starting off' literature
 Information on a helpful church

* Please tick and write clearly *

Name _____ Age _____

Address _____

Send to: World Hope Ministries, PO Box 96176, Brixton, 2019

All overseas enquiries are referred onto someone in their own country

Beware!

BY GREG LAURIE

GOD brought a series of 10 plagues upon ancient Egypt and the pharaoh, each gaining in intensity as Pharaoh's heart got harder. And the Bible says multiple times that Pharaoh hardened his heart.

But then we read in Exodus 10:1, "Now the Lord said to Moses, 'Go in to Pharaoh; for I have hardened his heart and the hearts of his servants, that I may show these signs of Mine before him'" (NLT).

So which was it? Did Pharaoh harden his heart, or did God harden his heart? Actually, it was both.

We can translate the word harden in this verse to read "strengthen" or "stiffen." The Lord strengthened Pharaoh's heart. In other words, Pharaoh made his decision, and then the Lord strengthened him in it. Pharaoh was culpable. He was responsible.

God has given each of us a free will, the ability to choose, and God honors the privilege that we have.

For instance, He said to the Israelites, "I call heaven and

earth as witnesses today against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing;

therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live" (Deuteronomy 30:19 NKJV). God told them the best choice to make.

But God will not force us to do His will. Sometimes it seems as though He ought to, but He won't.

The Bible says, "Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God; but exhort one another daily, while it is called 'Today,' lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. For we have become partakers of Christ if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast to the end, while it is said: 'Today, if you will hear His voice, Do not harden your hearts...'" (Hebrews 3:12-15 NKJV).

Every time you hear the Gospel, every time you hear God's offer of forgiveness for you and you reject it and say no to it, your heart gets a little harder.

If your heart becomes hard, it's because you've chosen to harden it yourself. Beware!

Ronnie Faisst in action during the Crusty Demons Nine Lives Tour at the Rod Laver Arena, May 21, 2004 in Melbourne, Australia. (Photo by Robert Cianflone/Getty Images)



MOTOX TURNS MOTO+

Ronnie Faisst grew up racing motocross and has raced professionally since he was 18. But his career soared to new heights when he helped pioneer Freestyle Motocross, a variation of motocross in which riders attempt to impress judges with jumps and stunts.

Ronnie talked about starting the sport in a video on his YouTube channel. He said at age 20 he moved to California where free riding was being birthed. With nothing but \$200 and an old, raggedy van, Ronnie drove across America and found a job in construction with fellow motocross rider Mike Metzger's father. When he wasn't working, he was riding and going on film trips.

"Little did we know, we were actually pioneering and birthing a whole new sport called Freestyle Motocross," Ronnie says.

Ronnie took that sport around America in 1998 on the Vans Warped Tour and his career took off.

"Before I knew it, I was traveling all around the world, tours, film trips, competing against the best riders in the world, sponsorship dollars came in, contracts came in, and I would ride that way for the next 20 years," Ronnie explains.

It was a fast-paced lifestyle on the road travelling with his friends.

"About everywhere we went there

were after parties and a wild lifestyle," Ronnie remembers. "And I was just in it to win it... I was known for being the committed guy who trained hard and was always into fitness, but was also known as the guy who got loose and partied a lot and chased all the girls."

One day at home, where he was living with his girlfriend at the time,

he saw a snippet of a preacher on television that caught his attention.

"He was talking about fear and I thought, what does this dude know about fear?" Ronnie says. "I deal with this on a

daily basis in my sport, so I decided to listen on. I actually liked what he had to say and I decided to watch him the next weekend."

Ronnie started watching the preacher on TV every week for the next year or more. He said he liked that he was really positive, always had a good message about faith and how God was on our side and God loved us and wanted to bless us. Despite this, Ronnie's lifestyle continued as it had been.

"I was listening to him and I was being encouraged by what he was saying, but my lifestyle never really shifted," Ronnie admits. "I was still sleeping around and doing whatever I liked and not even feel-

ing guilty about any of it and just thought that was what everyone was doing."

He said he thought of himself as a good person and that the good outweighed the bad in his life, which meant if he died, he thought he deserved to go to heaven. But when a friend gave him a Bible for Christmas, things began to change for Ronnie.

"When I began to read the Bible for the first time for myself, God really started to speak to me," Ronnie says. "It was like the Word of God was alive, because I couldn't put this book down. I never read books, never even read Motocross magazines, I don't like to read anything and yet I could not stop reading this Book."

He said as he read, verses began to almost jump off the page and challenge him.

"I realised, I say I believe in this faith, but I don't live like I do," Ronnie recalls. "One of the verses that really hit me says, 'What will it profit a man if he gained the whole world but he lost his own soul' (Mark 8:36). [I was] thinking, I'm living my dream, I've got everything I ever wanted and things are good, yet I might be missing the one thing that matters."

A theme Ronnie kept seeing in the Bible was repentance (turning away from doing wrong things).

"The Bible kept saying repent, and repent simply means to change your direction," Ronnie explains. "If I'm walking this way, if I was to repent that means I would turn from the way I was headed and I'm going to turn and go a different direction, and I never did that."

Ronnie said although he watched the preacher for over a year, it

wasn't until he read the Bible that he began to feel challenged and had a desire to make a change and follow Jesus. He said he spoke to a Christian friend in the freestyle industry, Nate Adams, and started attending church with him.

"It wasn't long before they gave a message that challenged me and I just knew, it's time to make a real commitment," Ronnie remembers. "I went forward, responded to the altar call, went up to the front, and gave my life to the Lord. And from that day on, I said, man I'm going to be committed to this. I'm going to go for this. And I remember I did a complete 180 turnaround in my life. I was like, I'm done chasing the girls, I'm done living this crazy lifestyle, I'm done with all the partying, all the alcohol, the drugs, all the stuff, I'm done! I'm going to go for Jesus. And that's where my journey began."

Ronnie said actually making the decision to follow Jesus and pray a prayer of salvation in 2006 wasn't the hard part. He said it has been a lot more challenging to actually

walk it out and stay faithful to his commitment to Jesus.

"I had my challenges, I had my weaknesses, my mistakes and my failures along the way, but God remained faithful and He was able to love me right through it," Ronnie explains. "I'm not here today because I was able to do it perfect. I'm still a believer and I'm still following Jesus mainly because I never quit. His love is perfect and He loved me through my weaknesses. Even when I failed Him, He never gave up on me."

Ronnie refers to the change in him since becoming a Christian as a miracle. He said he has been blown away by what God has done in him.

"I experienced something so real that it shifted everything," Ronnie says. "The desires of my heart have changed, the way my mind thinks has changed, the way that I actually choose to live my life has changed."

Ronnie is married to ex-motocross model Mel and together they run an online Christian ministry and YouTube channel called Ronnie and Mel.



Ronnie and his wife Mel.

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WORLD HOPE MINISTRIES

SOUTH AFRICA

106 NURNEY AVE, CROSBY, JHB

P.O. BOX 96176

BRIXTON 2019

(T) 2711 837 3437

(F) 2711 837 9104

Rev. Willie Dengler

E-mail: mbcchurch@icon.co.za