

I FOUND A NEW LIFE

The day death died

BY ANDREW HALLOWAY

DID you know that your greatest enemy has been defeated?

Death has been conquered – and it all happened back on the first Easter Sunday.

We've all had some gloomy reminders recently that death is a reality, whether through the Covid pandemic or the wars and other tragic events around the world. But death no longer has the victory over us, it is NOT the end! That's why Easter should be a party, not a funeral!

Invite everyone, get the music on, and get dancing on the grave of death – because we no longer have to fear it.

I say again, it is NOT the end.

Yes, Jesus died, but after a couple of days to show he was truly dead, he came back to life on the third day!

And with Him he brought the invitations for all of us to a party in heaven that will never end.

When He rose from the dead, Jesus guaranteed that we too can defeat death. How, you ask? No one comes back to tell us.

But one Person has – Jesus.

That's what turned the world upside down 2,000 years ago as Christianity exploded onto the scene, as ordinary people encountered a living Jesus who could transform their lives.

Yes, we die physically, but – if we put our lives in Jesus' nail-scarred hands – we can live through death and enjoy a whole new life, forever. That's why Jesus came. Not just to teach us how to live right, important though that is, but to give us eternal life.

That's why we can call Good Friday "Good". It was the awful day that Jesus was tortured and executed, but it was also the day death died. Jesus' death opens up new life to all who will believe, and His resurrection was the proof! As Jesus said: "I give them eternal life, and they will never perish" (John 10:28). Have you joined the party yet? •

BY LEXI AGGEN (ABRIDGED)

In the early '90s, Rochelle's life looked like the American dream. She was married to a man who served as a deacon at their church and her three children performed well in school. But life inside the home was more like a nightmare. Rochelle's husband was abusive. She hid it from her children but couldn't convince everyone. Her boss knew something was wrong and one day pulled Rochelle aside to say a prayer for her.

Her boss wasn't aware that, at her husband's request, Rochelle had set up dummy accounts to look like businesses and was paying them with money from the company. Rochelle wanted a different life – she wanted out of her loveless marriage and out of hiding, but she didn't know how.

She cried out to God, begging Him to get her out of this situation. She never anticipated how the Lord would answer her prayer. That same day, Rochelle was arrested and charged for theft of \$50,000. She was sentenced to 14 years in prison in a facility eight hours away from her family.

While in prison, Rochelle was given a Bible from a Prison Fellowship volunteer named Emma who led a Bible study at her facility. When she received the Bible, Rochelle dismissed it. What could she get from the Bible?

One day, while at a prayer service in the prison, Rochelle had an encounter with the Lord that changed her heart toward the Bible she had been given. The speaker



Rochelle living her new life with her husband, Anthony.

mentioned God reviving "dry bones" in Ezekiel 37, and Rochelle began to wonder if her own dry bones could live.

She opened the Bible Emma had given her and expected to read that she was special and loved. While that was true, Rochelle also learned more truths about herself: "I was deceptive," she says, "I was manipulative. I had learned maladaptive behavior. I had childhood trauma."

Rochelle had grown up in the 1970s, the daughter of a woman who struggled with mental illness. At 13 Rochelle was pregnant and

living with her grandmother.

But her grandmother saw a bright future for Rochelle and encouraged her to graduate high school. At 16, Rochelle had her second child – and never gave up on her studies. She graduated high school, and at the age of 18 joined the military with her uncle, who was the same age and had been raised as a brother to her.

Rochelle served in operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm immediately after training. While she was proud to be in the military, what really appealed to her was the

way it made her look. Her service to the nation masked her guilt and shame to the outside world, while inside she was struggling.

"It was an honor to serve my country," she says, "but I thought it would also be that place to replace what I thought was missing, to affirm that validation from the things I've experienced as a child."

While serving, she met and married her first husband. She fought hard to make her life look different than she felt internally. She attributes her incarceration to overcompensating for what she felt she didn't have.

When Rochelle realized she had learned unhealthy ways of living she set out to make a change. She approached the prison chaplain and asked to borrow a dictionary. Instead of looking up the negative words she felt God revealed to her, she looked up the opposite.

The first word: integrity. At the top of a page in her new Bible, she wrote down "integrity," followed by its definition. She wanted to see it in her own life, so for the next 10 months she prayed, searched the scriptures, and asked the Holy Spirit to help integrity take root in her life.

After the 10 months were over, Rochelle could see a difference in how she behaved – and so could the correctional officers. She then moved onto the next word: accountability. Rochelle continued this process of writing down words and practicing them until a change had taken place in her heart.

The changes were visible not just to the corrections officers, but all who encountered Rochelle.

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DON'T SETTLE FOR ALMOST

BY JOHN HUTCHINSON

THE young driver hit a tree. His car was a write off. Adding to the dilemma, it was his mother's car.

I couldn't believe his words. He said, "I almost made it around that bend."

Swimming champion, Kyle Chalmers, almost made it at the Tokyo Olympics. He ran second place to Caeleb Dressel in the 100 meter freestyles – finishing just 0.06seconds behind the American winner.

But almost making it doesn't make it! If you miss by a millimeter you miss by a mile. To miss by a millisecond is to miss by a minute. Those who almost make it don't!



"Almost" isn't quite the same as a hole in one! Stock photo.

Explorers, Burke and Wills, fatefully succumbed to almost in the tragedy at Coopers Creek. Sir Douglas Mawson agonised over it when he made it back alone from the South Pole and then saw the sails of a ship moving away – leaving him another year in the freezing Antarctica.

Almost got him

An assassins attempt on the life of Adolf Hitler almost succeeded. He carefully studied Hitler's routine and set up a bomb in a wooden pillar near to where the dictator made regular speeches.

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BACK PAGE



I found a new life

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She developed a relationship with Emma and took part in the Bible study she hosted. On the prison yard, women would approach Rochelle for counsel.

Back home, things had changed as well. Her marriage dissolved, and her children were living with her father and stepmother.

Rochelle learned how to build her life on a solid foundation while in prison. When she was released on parole, she had the opportunity to bring the lessons she had learned behind the walls back into her family life and community.



Rochelle still uses the weathered old Bible she received while in prison.

After her release Rochelle met her current husband, Anthony, while living in Tennessee. The pair has a blended family, and Rochelle and Anthony co-labor in prison ministry.

One of her favorite parts of the job is helping prisoners receive Bibles, like the one she received all those years ago—and helping them discover what it looks like to walk with integrity and accountability. To this day, she still uses the tattered, weathered old Bible she received while in prison, notes and all.

The original of this story can be found at www.prisonfellowship.org and it is used with kind permission.

I WAS A NEO-NAZI

BY KEN PARKER

I joined the Ku Klux Klan in 2011, at age 31. I'd just left the Navy and was spending most of my time sitting at home with my wife. One evening, we found ourselves binge-watching the documentary series *Gangland*. While watching an episode on the Klan, my wife off-handedly suggested that I join.

"It's right up your alley," she said — and she was right. I was missing the camaraderie of the military, so I found the Klan's brand of brotherhood very, very appealing. On top of that, I wasn't at all fazed by the organization's ideology. Though I grew up in an integrated environment and attended diverse schools, I had some pretty racist inclinations. And I was fine with that. I considered myself a Christian, but my theology more than allowed for white supremacy. So, I did some research and sent out a few applications.

The Loyal White Knights were the first group to call me. They asked if I'd help recruit for an upcoming rally and, without hesitation, I said yes.

I was quickly indoctrinated. The organization twisted Scripture until the "faith" not only allowed for white supremacy, but demanded a defence of it. I was deceived and I also deceived others; as a recruiter, I lied regularly. In media interviews, I'd boast that we had 1500 regional members, when we only had four or so. It felt strange at first, but I got the hang of it and, for that, I was rewarded.

Within three months, I'd been named Grand Dragon of Florida and Georgia. I was third in command.

As a leader, I became disillusioned — not by the Klan's mission, but by the members' rampant drug use. Almost everyone was on meth. So, in 2016, I left the Klan for the Nazis, or the National Socialist Movement. Again, I quickly moved up the ranks, eventually gaining control of Florida, Georgia, and the Carolinas. I helped organize the infamous 2017 Charlottesville rally, which really put me on the map. I was known.

Things started to shift a few months after Charlottesville.

It began with an interview for the Netflix special *White Right: Meeting the Enemy*.

I was shocked to find that I liked the filmmaker, Deeyah Khan. I remember thinking "She's a Muslim...how can she be so smart and cool?" I was genuinely confused.

Around the same time, a black pastor named Will struck up a conversation with me at our apartment's pool. It was obvious that he knew who I was, but he showed me nothing but kindness.

I told him that I'd asked many pastors for theological arguments against white supremacy, but none could answer my questions. Pastor Will simply replied that God had come to earth in the person of Jesus Christ to extend love and salvation to His creation.

I scoffed at the time, but his words stuck with me.

In the following weeks, I began questioning my Christian identity.



Ken in Loyal White Knight garb. (photo by Dennis Ho).

I'd considered myself a Christian my whole life, but it was becoming clear that I was far from one. I was a "Christian" because I'd grown up in the church and believed in God ... but, that was it. I wasn't following Christ. I was following Nazism.

I was also realizing that white supremacists' "biblical" justifications for racial hierarchy and hatred were missing from Scripture.

The more I read the Bible, the more I began to see that white supremacy was a religion of its own; it was separate from and contradictory to the Word of God. As a major rally in Tennessee approached, I found myself at a crossroads. In confusion, I turned to Pastor Will. His response was simple: pray.

The night before the rally, I sat alone at my desk and prayed. Out of nowhere, I was slapped across the face by Someone unseen. This wasn't

imagined; the slap left a mark on my face — I almost bruised! I then heard the voice of the Lord say, "You are not going."

In that moment, I was set free. I'd already internally acknowledged that white supremacy was a lie, but I'd still been bound to it; finally, that night, I found the freedom that Christ died to give me. In my resignation letter, I stated that I was leaving

hate to follow Christ. Some members were supportive, but many called me a "race traitor". A few even threatened my life.

Soon after, Pastor Will invited me to his church. Of course, I was insanely nervous. I was sure that the members would judge me for my past, but when I arrived, everyone greeted me, hugged me, and shook my hand. It was awesome! On June 21st, 2018, Pastor Will baptized me off the coast of Jacksonville, Florida. I'm now the only white member of an all-black church — and I feel right at home.

The same God who opened the eyes of the Apostle Paul opened mine. When Paul met

Jesus, he was on his way to persecute Christians in Damascus. I met Him on my way to persecute His people in Tennessee. The Holy Spirit knocked Paul down and blinded him; I was slapped. Two hateful people living thousands of years apart, same intelligent, redeeming God. That is a testament to our God's steadfastness.

There's no way for me to make amends with every single person I've harmed. This pains me. I can't make it right, but I can speak against white supremacy and share my story of divine redemption. I can share the truth of the Cross. It's not always easy to share, but since the moment Jesus saved me, my life has no longer belonged to me. I — and my story — exist for nothing other than His glory.

As told to and edited by Adira Polite and originally published on Then God Moved



Ken in 2018 at his baptism with Pastor Will.

"God undertook the most dramatic rescue operation in cosmic history. He determined to save the human race from self-destruction, and He sent His Son Jesus Christ to salvage and redeem them. The work of man's redemption was accomplished at the cross."
Billy Graham



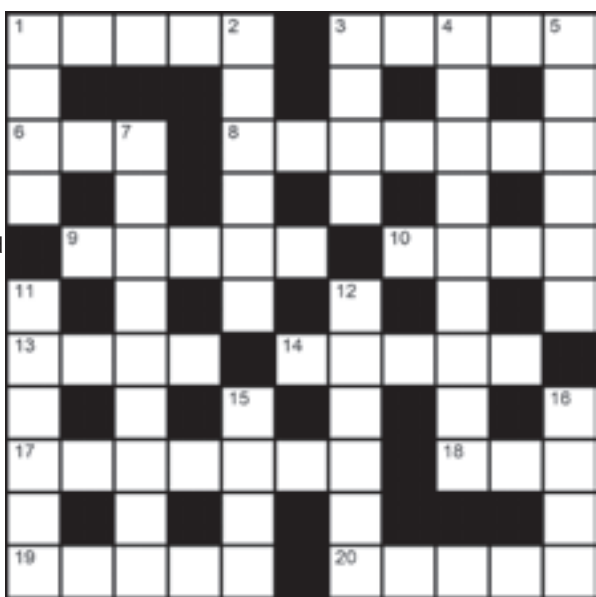
Coffee Break CROSSWORD & SUDOKU

ACROSS

- 1 Fly-fisher's target
- 3 Careless hurrying
- 6 Wrinkly faced dog
- 8 Woolly critters
- 9 Vegetable bulb
- 10 Wharf, pier
- 13 Chess piece or bird
- 14 Military trainee
- 17 Past middle age
- 18 Pool-testing digit!
- 19 Walk like you own the place
- 20 Darkest hours

DOWN

- 1 Oopsy on the keys
- 2 Receptacle for infusions
- 3 Cape of Good
- 4 Fleshy plant



- 5 School writings
- 7 Early explosive
- 11 Athens residents
- 12 Gorge, ravine
- 15 Horse's slow run
- 16 Thaw, dissolve

SOLUTIONS PAGE 7



"I know my instruments are sterilised every day, but I have no idea who does it!"

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nudge WITH KARL FAASE

What we need to be happy

IN HIS book with the clever title *Too Soon Old, Too Late Smart*, Gordon Livingstone reflects on happiness. He says that in his years as a professional therapist, many clients have wanted him to make them happy. Livingstone tells them: "The good news is that we have effective treatments for the symptoms of depression. The bad news is that medication will not make you happy. Happiness is not simply the absence of despair."

He says that all of us need three qualities in life to be happy. Firstly, someone to love, secondly something to do and thirdly something to look forward to. If we have

these three traits we are well on the way to happiness. Here is why Christian belief can make such a difference: God loves us and gives us the opportunity to love.

We are gifted by God with the opportunity to serve others, and to make a positive contribution to our world. And thirdly, Christians have eternal security promised in Jesus.

God doesn't promise an easy life but God does give us what we need for a joyful life.

MY SEARCH FOR ANSWERS

Erick Langat is a prison chaplain who speaks light into inmates suffering in darkness and shares the good news of Jesus's death and resurrection to anyone who will listen. Today, he says that God has immensely blessed him, his work and his family.

Things were not always smooth sailing, though. Before Erick came to know Jesus personally, he went through a stage of searching.

Erick says, "I was the last born in a family of six brothers and three sisters. I was brought up in a Christian family. I went to Sunday school as a child and Bible camps as a teenager.

"I first heard about Jesus in my Sunday school class but I did not understand what needed to happen to make it real. I was just doing the 'right' thing and serving God without really knowing Him."

It was not until Erick had finished his primary school exams and moved up to high school that he had a realisation that, just because his parents were Christians, it did not mean that he had a free ride to heaven. He needed to make that personal decision on his own.

This thought was further encouraged when he listened to a sermon during a rally and heard the Gospel [the good news of Jesus saving us from our sins] in full.

He responded to the altar call and got saved.

"So, on the 2nd February, 2003, I gave

my life to Christ," he relates.

"I saw that life without Christ is useless. There were verses like Romans 5 and verse 8 that spoke to me. 'But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.'"

Erick previously struggled with ungratefulness. "Somebody would do

something for me and I would not appreciate that they had helped me," he tells *Challenge*. Since his conversion, though, God has been working in Erick's life and helping him to overcome all of his struggles and sins.

"The biggest change in my life since that miraculous day is that I have been able to see that Christ has been with me throughout the whole of my life. I have no doubt about it," he proclaims joyously.

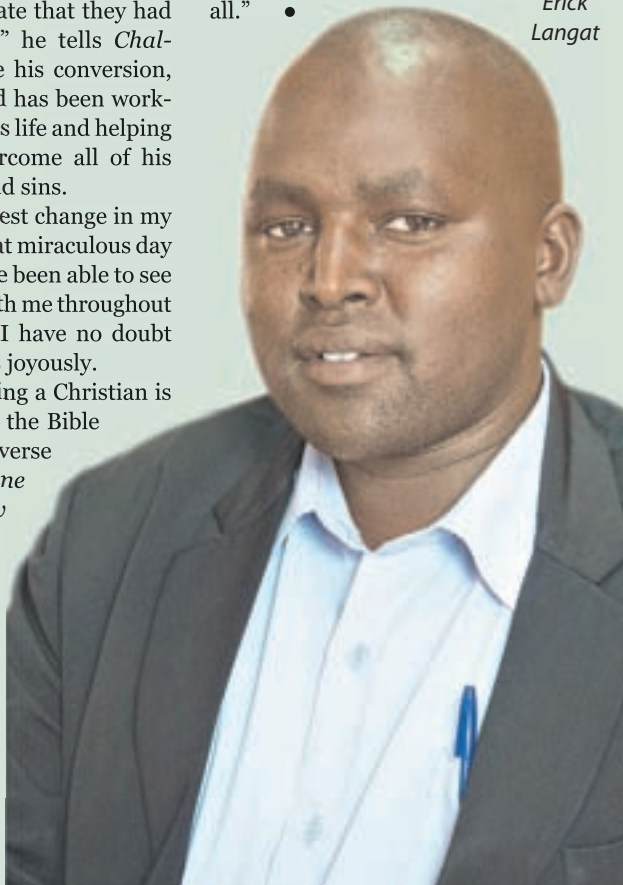
"The best part of being a Christian is the truth expressed in the Bible in 2 Corinthians 5 and verse 17: 'Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away, behold all things have become new.' I am now blessed with a family and have two kids."

Erick's favourite verse from the Bible is Colossians 2:14, which says, 'Having cancelled the

charge of our legal indebtedness, which stood against us and condemned us; He [Jesus] has taken it away, nailing it to the cross.'

"I would like to tell others that to come to Christ is life changing," he smiles. "Christ saves and He is the Lord of our lives, our Father, and our God. He is the Lord of our lives! The grace of God is sufficient for all."

Erick Langat



“ To come to Christ is life changing. ”

Don't settle for *almost*

• From page 1

Hitler's address, however, was shorter than usual and he left before the bomb went off.

The would be assassin *almost* made it to freedom but was intercepted by a curious border guard. How different the world would be if the assassin succeeded!

Almost certain

I was intrigued by the word "almost" in the chapter headings of *The God Delusion* – a book written by atheist Richard Dawkins. The heading in chapter four said, *Why there almost certainly is no God.*

What an admission!

Dawkins couldn't say for certain that God doesn't exist. He would know, as many should know, the evidence tells us God does exist.

Believing in the existence of God is the all important step in coming to know God.

The Bible says: "...for those who come to God must believe that He is, and that He rewards those who diligently seek him."

Almost persuaded

I read a quotation in a secular magazine which said, "to be almost saved is to be totally lost."

It reminded me of King Agrippa in the New Testament before whom the imprisoned apostle Paul appeared. After hearing about Paul's faith Agrippa said, "You have almost persuaded me to be a Christian." (Acts 26:28)

To which the prisoner said, "I would to God, that not only you, but also all who hear me this day, were both almost, and altogether such as I am, except for these chains."

Paul had once been as anti-Christian as any man but, having met the risen Christ on the Damascus Road was so persuaded himself, that all the opposition and persecution thrown at him couldn't shake him.

Jesus Christ gave His all to save you from your sins – even suffering on a Roman cross. There was no *almost* with Jesus.

Don't settle for *almost* in the issue of faith – eternity is at stake!

See the box on page 7 for assistance in how to be fully committed to Christ and saved for all of eternity.

Satan worshipping murderer turns his back on his old life

Trompie Viljoen is in prison on a string of convictions – murder, attempted murder, assault and possession of ammunition – and has served 13 years of a 24-year sentence.

The 34-year-old tells *Challenge News* he was full of anger all the time. "I was worshipping Satan, using drugs and doing all the wrong stuff you can think of."

Trompie grew up with his grandmother, whom he says "was the best ever". But she died when he was 12 and the young boy was sent to live with his father, who had been in jail for killing Trompie's mother.

"I never really had a bond with him and ran away from home more times than I can count on my fingers," he shares. "I started using drugs and messed up my life ever since."

Trompie's life continued to be "a mess" until the night several months ago when he had a terrifying nightmare.

"I was trapped in the darkest of the darkest," he recalls. "I woke up scared to death and sweating."

The next day he attended the prison church service. Early in 2023, after attending church regularly, Trompie committed his life to Jesus Christ.

"I always knew there was a God but it was in prison where I met the one and only true God, the Creator of heaven and earth."

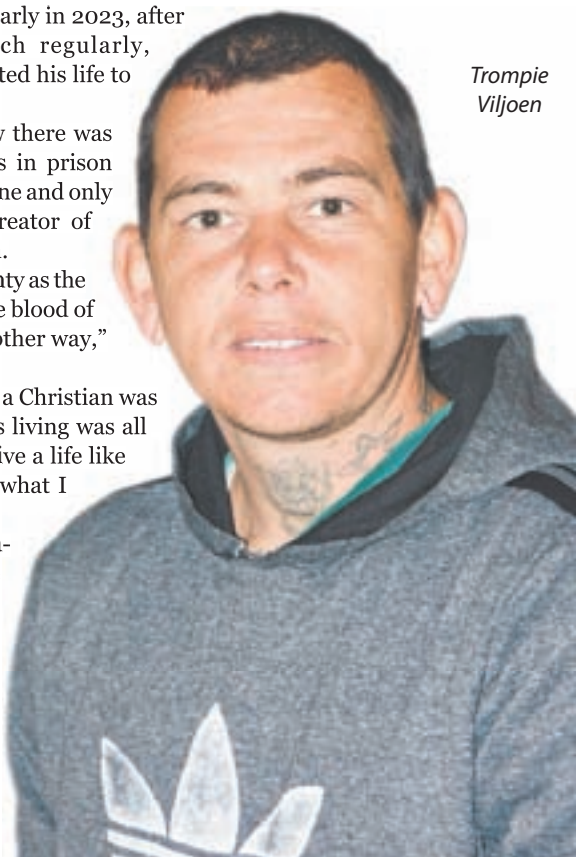
"Now I know the name of God Almighty as the great I AM (Exodus 3:14). Through the blood of Jesus you shall be saved. There is no other way," he declares.

Trompie says the reason he became a Christian was that his life felt empty. "The life I was living was all good and fun, but if you continue to live a life like that, there's no time for God. That's what I care about."

Although there have been some obstacles to his newfound faith, Trompie says he is feeling calmer than he ever has. "My whole life has changed; I see everything more clearly."

"God is the only true One you can rely on. He is the way and the truth and salvation only comes from Him. I would say to others 'be true to God all the time because He knows you better than you know yourself.'"

Trompie Viljoen



“ I woke up scared to death and sweating. ”

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

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

 BIBLICAL DISCIPLESHIP 1	<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>	 THE JESUS FILM	<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>
 BIBLICAL DISCIPLESHIP 2	<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>	 GOD'S ANSWER TO AIDS	<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>

ALL OUR COURSES ARE QUALITY ASSURED AND OUTCOMES BASED
HOPE MAKES ALIVE

I HEREBY APPLY TO ENROL WITH WORLD HOPE MINISTRIES TO COMPLETE THE SPIRITUAL PROGRAMME FOR PRISONS

NAME _____

PRISON NUMBER _____

PRISON _____

SECTION _____

CELL _____

Post to: PO Box 96176, Brixton 2019

I WAS THE LOWEST OF THE LOW

My name is Stuart* and I have been in jail now for just a bit over five years. I was arrested in 2017 and I will serve a total of eight years.

Before coming to jail I had let sin [wrongdoing against God] take over my life completely. Drugs, alcohol, lust, and greed were my downfall. In my eyes, and everyone else's, I was a complete failure. My life was a disaster and I had let my family, friends, and community down in a huge way. I hung my head in shame, and lived a life of regret. I was disowned by everyone I had ever loved, everyone except my older sister and her husband, who still cared for me.

I was angry, wild, scared, worried, broken-hearted, sorry, and another thousand emotions.

Thoughts ran through my head – I knew no one, had no one, I wished my life would just end there and then.

So, I withdrew into myself, put on a brave face and stayed out of trouble when I could. But the tension kept rising and I felt that I was soon going to snap.

Then one day a chaplain came into our pod. A lot of the other guys seemed to like him and showed him respect.

I watched on with interest as he spoke to a few of the guys and prayed with them. He then introduced himself to me. He said if I needed to talk about anything he would come back when he could. He also said I could request a Bible.

Then he prayed for my family and friends.

When he had finished he said, "Stuart, God loves you." I was taken back for a second. I didn't know what to do. I gave an awkward smile and walked out.

I wondered how anybody could love me, let alone God. I was the lowest of the low!

Strangely, over the next few weeks I kept thinking about that. "Stuart, God loves you."

About a month later I had the worst week ever. I had been copping torment, ridicule, and threats of violence and hate from some inmates, which led to mental stress and anxiety.

Then one week it was so hot and humid that you slept in your own sweat. There was no breeze and to top it off my fan had broken and the TV had also packed it in too. I was so bored I was going out of my mind!

The next day I filled out a request form asking for a Bible, just so I had something to read!

That night was the first time in a long time that I prayed to God. I asked for

help, even if it was only a working fan.

I pleaded for something to change in my life.

Later that night it began to rain, and I fell asleep in the cool night air.

Strangely, the next day, one of the other inmates asked me to double up with him. He had a working TV and fan in the cell, so it didn't take me much convincing to move.

There was one rule, however – he watched church on TV every Sunday morning. That night I was watching TV as the fan blew cold air around the cell and I felt that things had definitely changed.

The next morning my Bible arrived!

During the day you are locked out of your sleeping cell into the common room.

I laid down on the floor near the vents under the fan and I opened the Bible for the first time in over 30 years.

I started to read about Jesus and his followers. I got down to Matthew 5:43-48 where Jesus teaches about loving your enemies. Before I knew it I was reading about repenting (turning away from sin), confessing, Jesus dying on the cross for my sin, and how they crucified Him on the cross.

Then I read about how He rose again. I remember thinking there was so much more



Stock photo

in the Bible than I remembered as a kid!

But I could remember all the stuff I had done wrong in my life, all the sin and crime, all the pain and hurt I had caused – and it cut me to the bone!

I felt pain so deep in my chest I thought I was having an anxiety attack. I couldn't blame this feeling on alcohol or drugs as I hadn't had anything for over eight months now.

I asked myself why I felt so empty.

At that moment I realized I was lost. But then those words that the chaplain said came back to me "Stuart, God loves you!"

I think that was the first time I was convicted by [God] the Holy Spirit, I knew right then that I had to confess and repent (turn away from my sin) to Jesus for all my sins, and ask Him to come into my life.

So as I lay on the floor, I placed the Bible on my chest and closed my eyes. I silently prayed to Jesus and asked Him to forgive me of all my sins and to save me. I pleaded

to be saved and asked forgiveness, while forgiving all those who had hurt me. I asked for God's help in asking for forgiveness from all those I had hurt.

I had lost everything I loved, but in doing so, I found the one who loves me unconditionally.

I prayed for Jesus to lead me forevermore and to change me, heart and mind. So now I follow Jesus, He is my Saviour.

Jesus has changed me in so many ways, I am no longer that angry man I was. My fear and worry has all but gone, and I am growing in strength, belief, and faith daily.

My prayer life has exploded! I pray to the Lord every day and I now do Bible study courses and go to church meetings in my sector each week.

I am not sure what will happen tomorrow or the next day. I just take one day at a time, with Jesus in my heart. I trust my future to Him and accept what may come my way. •

*Name has been changed

The original of this story can be found at www.prisonfellowship.org.au and it is used with kind permission.



Stock photo

Prison set me free

Chris Roby knew he was dying. He knew every time he took a drink he was one step closer to an early grave. He'd been an alcoholic for 30 years, just like his mother – and it killed her.

"I was dying but I couldn't stop drinking," he says. "Mum was an alcoholic and sadly died an alcoholic. Over the years I also became a burnt-out drunk. I was hopeless."

Hunger was a constant companion while living on the streets of New South Wales, Australia, so when Chris was told he could get a free dinner at the neighbourhood Salvation Army, he made a beeline for it.

And that was where Chris met Salvation Army officer (Retired) Major Steve.

"Steve challenged me to pour out my grog and that's how it all started," Chris tells the Salvation Army magazine.

"I poured out three longnecks of beer and a bottle of rum on the steps of The Salvation Army. I had a massive anxiety attack. I tried every excuse not to, but I did it."

That simple but courageous act proved the turning point for Chris – though there were other factors in play. He had not been brought up in a religious family, but somehow he knew to pray to God.

"Sometimes in my drunken stupor I'd say, 'Please God, don't let me keep doing this,'" he shares.

Not long after meeting Major Steve, Chris served time in prison even though he prayed he might somehow avoid it.

He was disappointed he didn't get the outcome he prayed for, but God was at work in His own way – it was in jail that Chris began to experience some success in his efforts to overcome his drinking.

"I wasn't going to be able to stop drinking without going to prison," says Chris. "I know that now. Prison turned into rehab and the set of circumstances that happened in jail weren't accidents."

While in prison, Chris was encouraged to pray for healing. He'd been battling hepatitis for 29 years – "my eyes were yellow, I was grey, my liver was swollen" – but the doctors could not treat him because he was always drunk.

After finishing his prison sentence, Chris entered Adele House (now run by the Salvation Army) for rehabilitation and finally gave up his drinking.

"I'd prayed for healing to get rid of my hepatitis and I believed," says Chris, adding that he had faith God could heal him. True enough, he shares that the doctors found no trace of the disease.

"When I got sober the doctors couldn't find the hepatitis. They said it's rare for it to go out of your body by itself without treatment."

Chris' life has been transformed since he committed himself to Jesus.

"When I was 45, I was full of hepatitis, I couldn't put two words together, I was unshaven, filthy dirty and was just existing," he says.

"But I've been born again. Not my old life fixed up a bit. A whole new life. Freedom ... Putting down the drink would have been enough, but I've got a whole lot more. I can talk to people now; I can look them in the eye ... My health is getting better, I'm losing weight.

"I'm so grateful for the suffering Jesus went through for us. It overwhelms me. It's the biggest sacrifice out of the love He has for us," he says.

It has been more than a decade since Chris poured out his drink on the steps of the Salvation Army in Coffs Harbour.

After God turned his life around, Chris joined a pub ministry and also became a member of the Salvation Army's motorbike chaplaincy group.

He shares the gospel (the good news that Jesus came to Earth to die for our sins), and tells them: "Don't give up. You can do this. I did it." •

Now everything is possible

"All I wanted was money, power and respect until one day I opened the Bible..." says Tebogo Makgamatha, a prisoner at Devon Correctional Centre.

"I used to hear about God when I was growing up, but I didn't know His purpose until I attended a church service at Sun City Prison.

"Every Sunday pastors would come from different churches and preach the Gospel [good news about Jesus] to prisoners.

"I decided to become a Christian because I don't want to go to hell and burn for eternity. God promises to give us a new earth and heaven and take away all the pain. I will finally get to see the grace of God, the Creator Himself and worship Him forever.

"I repented of my actions and confessed my sins to God [and asked Him to] forgive me for all of the wrong things that I've done. I prayed that God would guide me to the path of eternal life. I know now that with God everything is possible.

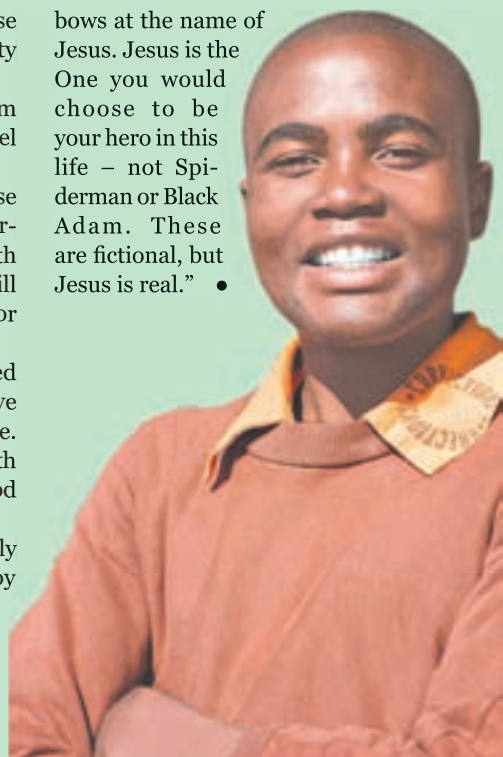
"Since committing my life to Christ I finally found my purpose in life and I now have joy in my heart... Jesus Christ is the Lord and Saviour.

"Jesus in the answer to everything. He is the comforter and most important of all, Jesus is God Himself.

"In the name of Jesus, demons bow. The name of Jesus has power over every-

thing. As long as you have faith you can even move the mountains. You could do many miracles through the name of Jesus.

"Jesus Christ is the name above every name. The whole universe – not just the earth – but the whole universe bows at the name of Jesus. Jesus is the One you would choose to be your hero in this life – not Spiderman or Black Adam. These are fictional, but Jesus is real." •



Tebogo Makgamatha

Afrikaans translation

EK HET DIE ANTWOORD GEVIND

Die streng dissipline in die gesin het Isaac Moloko op die reguit, nou pad gehou. Dit was moeilik toe die skewe, maklike pad hom aanhou lok het met beloftes van pret, en hy erken dat hy baie ingeperk gevoel het.

“Ek was nie toegelaat om in die aand uit te gaan nie, of om met die ander kinders in die dorpie te speel nie,” het hy vir Challenge News vertel.

“Ander gesinne het rituele en inisiasie seremonies gehad. Almal, behalwe ons familie, het dit beoefen, en ek wou baie graag dieselfde doen om aanvaar te word, maar ek kon nie as gevolg van ons streng gesins-omgewing”

Die rede vir hierdie streng reëls? Isaac se ouers was Christene en wou hul kinders van onbybelse gebruikte en gewoontes beskerm.

Hy het met sommige slegte gedrag geflankeer.

Hy erken dat hy vir sy pa gejoj het, byvoorbeeld wanneer hy sou sê dat hy het geld nodig gehad het om skoolboeke te koop, maar dan hou hy die geld vir homself.

Toe sy pa weggegaan het om by 'n Bybelskool te studeer, was daar finansiële beperkinge en het hy

begin om van ander te steel.

“Ja ek het daardie slegte dinge gedoen, maar as gevolg van my ouers se leiding was ek in staat om daardie slegte gedrag af te lê, en in hulle voetspore te volg.”

Toe hy 17 jaar oud was, het Isaac by die kerk gereageer op die roepstem om sy lewe aan Jesus te gee. “My pa het nooit ophou vertel van die belangrikheid vir my om na Jesus toe te draai nie,” sê hy.

“Ek het die behoefte vir God gesien en ek het my lewe vir Hom gegee. Ek is geseënd want ek is omring en beïnvloed deur mense wat God ken en hulle moedig my aan om 'n persoonlike verhouding met Hom te hê.”

Vandag lei Isaac (61), en sy vrou 'n kerk in Suid-Afrika.

Hy sê verwerping en beproewing is deel van die Christen ervaring, maar “God is getrou.

Ek sou dit nie sonder Hom so vêr gemaak het nie. Ek sien die vervulling van Sy Woord en waarheid in my lewe.”

Hy moedig ander aan wat deur moeilike tye gaan met hierdie gedagte “As enige mens deur situasies van teleurstelling, mislukking, of lyding gaan, laat hulle na Jesus toe kom en Hy sal hulle help.”

“Hy sê ‘Kom na my toe, almal wat

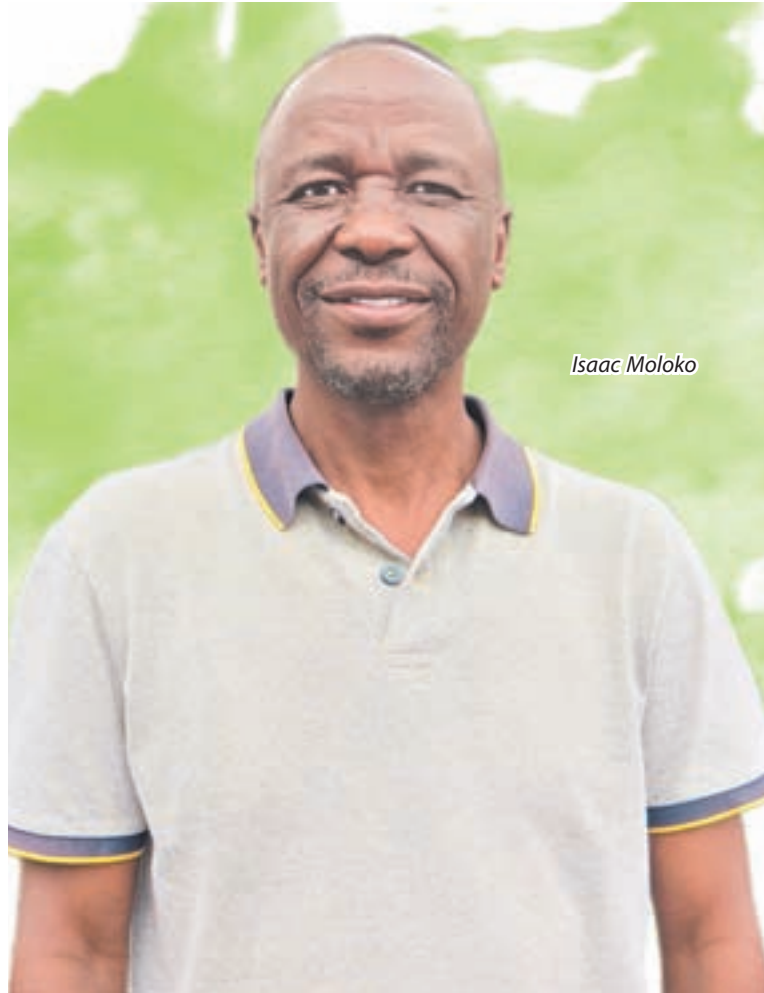
uitgeput en oorlaai is, en Ek sal julle rus gee.’ Matteus 11:28”

“Jesus is gereed om enige een, enige tyd te red, en dit maak nie saak hoe sleg of afvallig jy mag wees nie,

Hy sal jou lewe verander.

“Hy sal jou lewe sin en 'n betekenis gee.”

“Hy is die antwoord op al die lewe se probleme.”



Isaac Moloko

“**Ek sou dit nie so ver sonder Hom gemaak het nie.**”

Zulu translation

Ngayithola impendulo

I sandla esiqinile somthetho wasekhaya sagcina u Isaac Moloko eqondile.

Kwakunzima uma indlela elula ephume endleleni ithembisa lensizwa ubumnandi, uyazivumela ukuthi wayenemincele.

“Ngangingavunyelwe ukuphuma ebusuku ngiyodlala nezingane zakulesigodi,” etshela I Challenge news.

“Eminyane imindeni yayiba nemicimbi yamasiko okusoka. Bonke abantu babekwenza lokho ngaphandle komndeni wakithi ngangilangazelela ukwenza nami ukuze ngamukelekele, nganginkwazi ngenxa yesandla esiqinile somndeni.”

Yini isizathu semithetho engaka? Abazali ba Isaac babengamakhohla befuna ukuvikela ingane zabo ezenzweni ezingahambisani nebhayibheli.

Noma kunjalo wayenokugwegwa u Isaac, uyasho ukuthi wayenokucela imali kubabakhe ethi eyencwadi azigcinele yona.

Ngesikhathi ubabawakhe eya eskoleni sebhayibheli wayentula kakhulu wacina entshontsha.

“Yebo ngawenza zonke lezozinto ezimbi, kodwa ngenxa yezulelo zabazali bakhe wabayela endleleni walandela ezinyathelweni zabo.”

Eneminyaka ewu 17 u Isaac wanikela Impilo yakhe kuJesus. “Ubaba wayehlala engikhuthaza njalo ngokubaluleka kokunikela impilo yami kuJesus.” Esho yena.

“Ngasibona isidingo sikaNkulunkulu nganikela impilo yami kuYena. Ngibusisekile ukuthi ngangizungezwe ngabantu abamazayo uNkulunkulu futhi bangikhuthaza ukuthi ngibe nobudlelwano naYe.”

Namhlanje, uIsaac, una 61 yena nonkosikazi wakhe bangabafundisi bebandla eMzansi Africa.

Uthi izilingo nokuhlukumezeka ziyinxenye lohambo lobu Krestu kodwa uNkulunkulu wethembekile.” Bengingeke ngifike lana ngaphandle kwakhe. Izwi lakhe lifezekile empilweni yami.”

Ukhuthaza labo abasebunzimeni ngalemi-cabango: “Uma kukhona ojabhile, ohlulekile nodangele empilweni akeze kuJesus, uzobasiza.”

Uthi, Yizani kimi nina nonke enikhathale, nenisindwayo ngizoniphumuza (Matewu 11:28)

UJesus ulungele ukusindisa noma ngabe ubani oza kuYena, akuhluphi ukuthi wenzeni noma izolo lakho libole kanjani, angayiguqula impilo yakho, akunikezele isizathu sokuphila.

“UJesus uyimpendulo yazo zonke izinkinga zempilo.”

“**Bengingeke ngifike la ngaphandle Kwakhe.**”

English translation

I found the answer

Firm family discipline kept Isaac Moloko on the straight and narrow. It was hard when the crooked and easy way kept beckoning the young man with its promises of fun, and he admits he felt very limited.

“I was not allowed to go out at night or to play with other kids in the village,” he tells *Challenge News*.

“Other families had rituals and initiation ceremonies. Everyone else practiced them except my family and I really wanted to do the same thing to be accepted, but I had to abstain because of the strict environment of my family.”

The reason for the stringent rules? Isaac’s parents were Christians and wanted to shield their children from unbiblical practices or habits. Even so, Isaac did flirt with some bad behaviour, admitting that he would lie to his father that he needed money to buy school books but keep the money for himself.

When his father left to study at Bible School, Isaac felt more cash-strapped than ever and resorted to stealing from others.

“Yes I did those bad things, but because of my parents’ guidance I was able to turn from that bad behavior and follow in their footsteps.”

When he was 17, Isaac responded to an altar call at church to commit his life to Jesus.

“My father never stopped stressing the need for me to come to Jesus,” he says. “I saw the need for God and I gave my life to Him. I am blessed to have been surrounded and influenced by people who knew God and encouraged me to have a personal relationship with Him.”

Today Isaac, 61, and his wife pastor a church in South Africa. He says rejections and trials are part and parcel of the Christian experience but that “God is faithful. I would not have made it so far without Him. I see His Word and truth being fulfilled in my life.”

He encourages those who are doing it tough with these thoughts: “If anyone has been disappointed, failed or suffered through situations, let them come to Jesus and He will help them.

“He says ‘Come to Me all ye that are weary and heavy laden and I will give you rest.’ (Matthew 11:28)

“Jesus is ready to save anyone, anytime and it doesn’t matter what you did in the past or how rotten or disadvantaged you may be, He will change your life. He will give you a reason and meaning for living.

“He is the answer to all of life’s problems.”

“**I would not have made it so far without Him.**”

Are we qualified?

BY PASTOR MERVYN APPADU

FOR many people, paper qualifications have become all-important. Some even resort to purchasing a degree so they can present themselves with the “right qualifications”.

Some have even resorted to fraud and misrepresentation by falsifying certificates and buying forged qualifications. Others get honorary degrees.

Someone who had never been to university once expressed jokingly that he had studied at INOGO University of Hawaii.

He then explained to me that it was his way of expressing “I no go to university” in poor, broken English. It made me wonder if I should put MWQ (My Wife’s Qualifications) as one of my credentials!

As I considered the importance of qualifications, I thought about the qualifications that would impress God. Do we need qualifications before we can serve Him?

As the Lord brought my attention to Isaiah 6, I found that His question, “Whom shall I send?” and Isaiah’s response, “Here I am, send me”, occurred after Isaiah had repented [turned away from his wrongdoing] and God had forgiven him.

I began to realise that whom God forgives, He also asks to serve Him.

The “qualification” God seeks in His servants is a repentant heart. This idea is affirmed in Hebrews 9:14, “How much more shall the blood of Christ, Who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse our conscience from dead works to serve the living God?”

Repentance, forgiveness and readiness are far more important qualifications than paper qualifications. •



STOCK PHOTO

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WORDS FOR THE HEART

STUDIES IN THE GOSPEL OF MARK

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

Mark 1:1-20

INTRODUCTION

OUR studies in the Gospel of John have ended so we take up another Gospel which has a different approach to the telling of the story of Christ's life. Mark's Gospel focuses on events, the happenings of Jesus' life without a great deal of teaching being added. It is a fast-moving narrative. One of his most-used words is "immediately" as he moves from one event to the next. In this way we learn more and more about the nature of Jesus and who He is. Perhaps the greatest impression we gain is that Christ is Lord over all things and Lord in every circumstance.

It is believed that Mark knew Peter the disciple well, and that he received

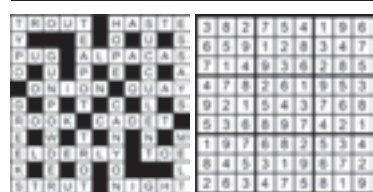
much of his information from him.

Chapter 1:1-3 *The beginning of the Gospel about Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It is written in Isaiah the prophet: "I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way – a voice of one calling in the desert, 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight paths for Him.'"*

We see that Mark does not commence his record with the birth of Jesus. He starts back a little to the preparation that was made for Christ's coming.

In the Old Testament the prophet Isaiah spoke about a future messenger who would announce to the world the coming of the Messiah, Jesus. That messenger was John the Baptist.

Verses 4, 5 *And so John came, baptising in the desert region and preaching repentance and baptism for the forgiveness of sins. The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were*



It was Satan's hope to turn Him off course. It is interesting to note that Jesus was with wild animals yet was not hurt.

Verses 14, 15 *After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. "The time has come," He said. "The kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news!"*

We note that the ministry of John the Baptist came to a sudden end. The great man was imprisoned and later executed by

Herod the King. Jesus moved from the desert to Galilee where He was to spend the majority of His ministry. He followed on from John the Baptist in what He said. It was a call to people to realise that God was dealing with them-- that He was making an offer to them. The term "kingdom of God" is used throughout the Gospels and in brief, means the rule of God over the hearts of His people.

The fulfillment of this is through Jesus, making a way for us to be saved from sin and to be brought into fellowship with God.

Verses 16-18 *As Jesus walked beside the Sea of Galilee, He saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will make you fishers of men." At once they left their nets and followed Him.*

This is how the calling of the first disciples began. Though this was not the first acquaintance they had with Jesus, (according to other Gospels), it is surprising that they were willing to drop what they were doing and follow Jesus wherever He went. We can only think that the Lord had a magnetic attraction about Him, and that they felt compelled to obey His call. The expression "fishers of men" refers to the winning of others to loyalty to Christ.

Verses 19, 20 *When He had gone a little farther, He saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John in a boat, preparing their nets. Without delay He called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed Him.*

We can't help but wonder what Zebedee thought about his sons walking off the job. But they joined the others making four future disciples. Little did they know what was in front of them – just what an amazing calling it was. The first steps were taken.

CONCLUSION

Mark has given us a quick introduction to his narrative of the life of Christ. Already we see how this man, Jesus, is different to all others. Yes, He is truly man.

But He is a man without sin.

He has come from another place (heaven) on a mission. His mission is to do the Father's will which concerns a great plan of salvation for mankind. A heavenly man joins with some earthly fishermen on a journey which is to change history.

This is no small matter. It is life-changing. Let's keep looking at this amazing life!

baptized by him in the Jordan river.

It seems surprising that there would be such a mass movement of people, especially seeing they were admitting their sinfulness. But this was God's plan.

The people needed to realise that they needed a Savior. In this way the door was being opened for Christ and His saving work. So the masses responded, though we learn later that some of the leaders didn't. The ritual of baptism was to mark the occasion of a change of attitude.

Verse 6 *John wore clothing made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey.*

Perhaps the description of this man and his strange appearance caught the attention of the people. He would remind them of the very famous prophet of older times, Elijah. Maybe some even thought it was Elijah coming back. But reincarnation was not accepted by the majority.

Verses 7, 8 *And this was his message: "After me will come one more powerful than I, the thongs of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I baptise you with water, but He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit."*

Now we see how John introduces the ministry of Jesus. He takes a lower place and tells that Jesus is superior to him.

The water baptism had its importance but what Jesus would do was far more important. In contrast to the ministry of Jesus, John the Baptist did no miracles. He was "a voice crying in the wilderness."

Verses 9-11 *At that time Jesus*

came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. As Jesus was coming up out of the water, He saw heaven torn open and the Spirit descend on Him like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with You I am well pleased."

The question comes to mind concerning why Jesus would need to be baptized. After all, He had no sins to confess. Indeed, John hesitated about baptising Him according to Matthew's Gospel.

But Jesus was identifying with the human race which He had entered, acting in obedience before all observers. The approval from heaven would have been a startling event for those who witnessed it. God speaking from heaven is recorded only three times in the Gospels.

Verses 12, 13 *At once the Spirit sent Him out into the desert, and He was in the desert 40 days, being tempted by Satan. He was with the wild animals and angels attended Him.*

We can't fully understand the relationship of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit but we know they work in complete unity. The Son has become man and now is tested to prepare Him to be Savior of the world. The enemy of God and man, Satan, needed to be confronted and Jesus needed to get the better of him.

So a battle was fought. Mark is very brief in his report but Matthew and Luke tell us more detail. It was not a matter of Jesus being inclined to do wrong but a decisive refusal, on His part to do anything but the will of His Father in heaven.

How can I become a Christian?

Anyone can gain the eternal life offered through Jesus Christ

We read in God's word: "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)

OUR PROBLEM:	Separation from God "Everyone has sinned. Nobody is good enough because God's standards are perfect" (Romans 3:23)	ADMIT
GOD'S REMEDY / SOLUTION:	Jesus died on the cross "God demonstrates His own love for us in this; while we were still sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8)	BELIEVE
OUR RESPONSE:	Trust Jesus by receiving Him "To all who received Him, to those who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God" (John 1:12)	COMMIT

Here is an example of how you can pray.

Dear Father in Heaven. I come to you now because I want to be saved. Please, forgive me of my sins. I believe that you sent your Son Jesus Christ to die for me and that you have raised him from the dead. I now ask Jesus Christ to come into my life as my Saviour and Lord. Take control of my life. Please make me the person You created me to be. In Jesus Christ's name. Amen

The Lord Jesus says: "I tell you the truth. Everyone who believes in me has eternal life." (John 6:47). He gives life of a wonderful quality that continues forever.

AS A NEXT STEP :

If you prayed the above prayer, tick this box

I have prayed this prayer.

Please send me:

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

If you have not prayed the prayer at this stage, tick this box

I would like to think about this.

Please send me:

- Bible portion
- More information as I am inquiring about being a Christian.
- I have a problem (see attached letter)

*** Please tick and write clearly ***

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Age and occupation (it helps) _____

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Do you need a fresh start?

HOW much do you appreciate forgiveness or a fresh start? Many people take this for granted because they have never really needed to know big forgiveness.

There have been times when news stories have reminded me that there are those of us who are desperate for a fresh start.

Like the week when a young mum driving near a school hit and killed a five-year-old boy.

This was the same week that a dad put his seven-year-old in the car outside an American gun shop. He got into the car and put his handgun down next to him; the gun discharged killing his son.

How much would these two people want forgiveness and a fresh start? How much would they be desperate to know freedom?

We can know this in Jesus; it's promised and delivered. Take the chance to experience God's grace today.



Beneil Dariush of Iran punches Mateusz Gamrot of Poland in a lightweight fight during the UFC 280 event at Etihad Arena on October 22, 2022 in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. (Photo by Chris Unger/Zuffa LLC/Getty Images)

TOUGH GUY FINDS TRUE GRIT

Mixed martial artist Beneil Dariush is currently ranked No.4 in the Ultimate Fighting Championship (UFC) lightweight rankings but eight years ago he was pursuing a different sport.

Beneil and his family moved from their farm in Iran to America when he was nine. At 18 he began training in Brazilian jiu-jitsu and earned his black belt in five years. He became a no-gi world champion as a blue, purple, and brown belt.

He explains in an interview with Run N Tell on YouTube that he moved to UFC when he was 25 after his mother confided in him that the family was struggling financially.

"It's okay mom, I got it," Beneil told his mother.

"Then I went into my room and I sat down and I was like, 'Why did I say that? What am I gonna do?'"

Beneil considered quitting fighting and getting a 9-5 job but he hated the idea.

"I was in such a bad place, I actually started to pray," he recalls.

Beneil had been raised attending an Aramaic church at Easter and Christmas but he says it was more of a "cultural thing".

"So I just was like, 'Alright God, if You're real, if You're up there, give me something.' A week or two later, I got a call for a professional fight in Brazil."

The only problem was that it was a professional MMA fight and at

that point, Beneil had only trained in jiu-jitsu.

But when he was offered the opportunity to fight MMA, he says, "I didn't want to sound like a wimp," and agreed.

Beneil began training immediately for the fight, which was in six weeks.

Against the odds, he won the fight and the pay cheque that went with it. He remembers handing it over to his mother with pride until he realised his winnings wouldn't last forever. There were payments to be made every month.

"I went back into my room and I prayed again and I was just like, 'Alright, You did it once, but I need another one. I don't know if You're really up there. I need to know if that was really You.'"

Then he had a call from a friend, asking if Beneil could train with him. He agreed and after their first session, the friend insisted on paying Beneil.

"All of a sudden I was working with him three or four times a week. I got another coaching job somewhere else — they just kept offering me jobs to teach and all while still fighting."

Beneil was making enough money to survive which was bolstered every now and again by his fight wins. He says he started to feel guilty that it seemed as though he received everything he prayed for and wondered what God wanted

from him in return.

He remembered an old wrestling coach he had who was also a pastor, Josh Holiday, and gave him a call.

Josh invited him to come to church and Beneil showed up the next weekend — dressed in his Sunday best.

"[Josh] was wearing just jeans and a T-shirt and I was like, 'Okay I may have made a mistake here!' But I sat through the service. I was very uncomfortable.

"The music wasn't something I was used to, the message wasn't something I was used to... but then I showed up again the next week and the next week and the next week and as I was showing up something was happening. I kept hearing about Jesus and the sacrifice and the cross. So I picked up my Bible and I started reading it."

Beneil read the entire Bible from front to back.

He says he "started to understand the cross". When he finished reading it, he started again.

"At the same time I gave my life to the Lord," he shares.

Beneil now says he recognises that his talents come from God.

"The whole purpose of my career is to point to my Lord and Saviour Jesus," he says in an interview with Brian Sumner.

"People forget fighting isn't just

violence. It doesn't necessarily mean violence if two people stop for a fight — it all depends on their intentions ... I believe fighting is the ultimate form of competition ...

“ I don't fight out of hate anymore. ”

"I don't fight out of hate anymore, I don't fight out of anger anymore — I focus on being disciplined. I focus on what is my motivation and what is my goal. The goal is to glorify God."

Last year a video of Beneil went viral regarding his comments about Iranian protestors.

The demonstrations started in September when a woman was arrested for allegedly

ignoring the government's requirements to wear hijabs or head coverings. She died in custody three days later.

"My people in Iran, I know you are struggling," he said in an in-cage interview. "I know you are fighting for freedom. I want you guys to know we're praying for you and we love you."

He went on to say, "There is true freedom — a freedom that no one can take from you — in the name of Jesus Christ, the son of God. Don't ever forget that. If you remember one thing I say, remember that."

Some news outlets referred to his final comments as "bizarre", but for Beneil, his faith is the foundation of his life. ●

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