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what my  
**BIBLE**  
CAN DO

## GUEST WRITER

Mrs. Julie Gaskill is Dr. & Mrs. Warner's daughter. She is a graduate of Oral Roberts University; mother of four small children; part-time Christian School teacher; married to Dr. Brian Gaskill.

As a teacher, homemaker, wife, and mother, I depend on God's Word for wisdom, guidance, and sometimes just for sanity! I have recently witnessed a transformation in my children and family lifestyle, from sheer chaos to an almost peaceful rhythm – as peaceful as life can be with four energetic children.

Bedtime at our house was by far the most stressful and chaotic time of day. I turned to Scripture for help, and started reading the Bible aloud to my boys every night as they fell asleep. I soaked up every word right along with them. To my amazement, they began looking forward to this special time of hearing Old Testament stories. They were so eager for me to read to them, that they started getting ready for bed as fast as they could, so they could listen to me read. I read to them until they fell asleep. They stayed in bed and slept through the night. Some nights they would fall asleep after one chapter, some nights it took a dozen or more. It didn't matter to me; I enjoyed reading the Bible, and the atmosphere in the house was peaceful at bedtime for once. As the boys drifted off to sleep, I began thinking – what else can my Bible do? That question propelled me into a closer look at what God's Word is, and just what it is capable of accomplishing.



First of all, God's Word is **PURE** (Prov. 30:5; Ps. 119:140) and it is **TRUTH** (Jn. 17:17; Ps. 119:142b, 160b). We can know for certain that what we read is the untainted, infallible words of the Most High God. No fallacy is intertwined within its pages. No false hope or empty promises are contained here! We can fully believe each word that has been carefully written down and printed for all of mankind. Ps. 33: 4 says that God's Word is right. If you find yourself debating between doing things according to the Bible, or doing what seems acceptable according to our culture, God makes it easy for us to know which to choose. His way is **RIGHT!** God's Word is our **DELIGHT** and **PLEASURE** (Job 23:12; Ps. 119:47, 103). It is also a **SEED** (Lk. 8:11). Seeds have potential for greatness. They grow and serve a purpose when fostered in the right environment. The Word is **SETTLED** (Ps. 119:89). God won't change His mind and He won't renege on a promise. Finally, the Word **LIVES** and **LASTS FOREVER** (1 Pet. 1:23; Ps. 33:11, 119:160b). Since It lives, God's Word can speak to us in our own personal lives and give us the answers we so desperately seek in our individual situations. The Word of God lasts forever; it is perpetual, on-going, and living, to give us hope and answers not only for today, but for years to come! I am so thankful for this valuable and necessary gift from God.

God's Word is capable of doing far more than we can imagine, I'm sure. Just paging through the Bible in one sitting, I found the following things that the Bible can do. The Word of God: **1. CREATES** (Gen. 1-2; Ps. 33:6; Jn. 1:1-4); **2. INSPIRES**; **3. BUILDS FAITH** (Rm. 10:17); **4. KEEPS US FROM SIN** (Ps. 119:11); **5. GIVES LIGHT** (Ps. 119:105, 130a); **6. GIVES LIFE** (Ps. 119:50); **7. GUARDS DOCTRINE** (II Tim. 3:16); **8. REPROVES/ CORRECTS** (II Tim. 3:16); **9. INSTRUCTS/COUNSELS** (II Tim. 3:16; Job 22:22; Ps. 119:24); **10. MAKES YOU WISE** (II Tim. 3:15); **11. EQUIPS** (II Tim. 4:2); **12. SAVES** (Ps. 119:92); **13. GIVES UNDERSTANDING** (Ps. 119:99-100, 130b); **14. PROTECTS** (Ps. 37:31).

What are we to do with such a powerful book? **HEAR IT** (Jn. 8:47; Ps. 119:36). Read it out loud or listen to the Bible being read to you. It really has changed my children's behavior and changed the atmosphere in our home. **LET IT DWELL IN YOU** (Col. 3:16). It is living remember; let it take up residence in our

( See **BIBLE** Page 4)



**"Providing today's ministers the freedom they want and the fellowship they need."**



Dr. Tim Warner

# CHAIRMAN'S Corner



## A TIME FOR VIOLENCE!

**To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: Eccl 3:1**

It's a New Year! Many people have already lost hope in the resolutions and aspirations that 'it might get better.' In our futile attempts to "get it right" by methods by self-improvement using sheer will power or imagining our way to a "new you" quickly fall short of our goals. It does not take long to realize that true change only comes by the words of the prophet: "It's not by might; not by power; but by my Spirit saith the



LORD" (Zech 4:6). Old habits seem to increase their grip when we try "by the arm of flesh" to begin new ones. So what is the Christian to do? Give up? Be like *the little train that could*, and try again? Backslide or move forward?

### FOR MINISTERS ONLY

We, as ministers of the gospel of Jesus Christ, must realize some vital statements that our Lord has spoken in regard to the bringing forth of His Kingdom. We live in a world covered with darkness. In fact, John says that the "whole world lies in the grasp of the wicked one." (See 1 John 5:19 AMP). There's a hard, thick, carnal shell over the hearts of the people in the world and most of the church as well, that accentuates the "gross darkness" that covers the entire earth. So just how do we break through it? How can we bring the kingdom of God as a living reality in our homes, families, and churches? We must analyze the verse in Matt 11:12 where it says: **And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force!**

Jesus exhorted His followers that the Kingdom will be taken from heaven and brought to the hearts of people on earth only if disciples make some internal resolves based on His word of truth. The kingdom of God, according to Rom 14:17, is righteousness (declared by God Himself to be living according to His standards), peace (right, pure



relations between God and man; and man and man), and joy (the inner sense of His presence filling our hearts within us and the strength in knowing He is with us). In order for His kingdom to come in the power, someone must be willing to stand up and defy the powers of darkness, take God at His word, and clearly speak of the requirements that God calls for amongst His people...just like John Baptist preached it.

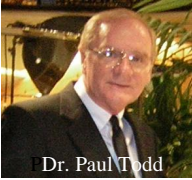
### STAND UP AND FIGHT

When Jesus spoke those majestic words, "the violent take it by force" He was calling for ministers of the gospel to embrace a whole new level of faith. These daring words given by the Savior call us to stand strong in the battle and fight for what's right! Christ is challenging us to take the spiritual weapons of warfare (2 Cor 10:4-5) and pull down the strongholds of hell that have invaded our peoples' minds through passivity and compromise. This message of "taking the Kingdom by force" isn't for the want-to-be rich and famous preachers, weekend warriors, or half-hearted believers. No, Christ is calling for the "Calebs" of this generation that are as "strong at eighty as they were at forty" (Josh 14:11); and will "wholly follow the Lord" (32:12) no matter what!



Do you have a violent inner nature that refuses to bow to the god of this world? Will you rise up in the name of our God and defy the powers of darkness that keep the kingdom from expressing itself in God's fullness? Are you willing to fast, pray, seek God like Caleb until heaven comes down in power? If so, you're on the right track! If not, why not? If you're not sure, you can be. The divine requirement is to "present" yourself (Rom 12:1) before the Almighty and ask him to give you an inner tenacity that will prepare the way of the Lord for the people of God as did John Baptist!





Dr. Paul Todd

# THE HOME OFFICE

## A TRIBUTE TO MY DAD

Pastor Mike Brown, The Gathering, Okeechobee, Florida, emailed me with this observation about my dad. "As a child one of my fondest memories when your family visited was your dad making us all laugh with jokes and funny stories. I guess I will have to wait until we all get to heaven to say, tell us another one Brother Todd." We will miss him.

My dad Rev. Dr. William Todd, went home to be with the Lord early in the morning on Thursday, December 23, 2010. He passed away in our home, surrounded by family, after several weeks of continuous care by Hospice.

Dad was a different kind of pioneer. We evangelized together in those days when you just went from church to church and usually stayed with the pastor. Sometimes they didn't know how to take dad. He told funny stories, jokes and lots of illustrations. In those days-I'm talking about the 60's-preaching was usually a somber occasion. Not for dad. He had a knack for making people laugh. His philosophy was, "when the people open their mouths to laugh, I'll put some meat of the Word in there." And he did too.

The reason he came to Homosassa, Florida was because of having a revival in Tampa. Before Tampa we had been in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. That's where Pastor Mike was talking about. People were getting saved and filled with the Holy Ghost. Preaching was dad's life. Give him time and he'd preach to anybody that came around.

We came to Homosassa, to have a revival meeting. The meeting lasted for two weeks. The church wanted him to be the pastor of what was then a very small church congregation..

Dad didn't want to stay in Homosassa. He wanted to go back home to Evansville, Indiana. Probably because he had roots there. My sisters and my mom, who are all now deceased, encouraged dad to stay. I did too. Reluctantly he did. If he had lived to August of this year it would have been 50 years. Dad was 90. He loved the people and they loved him.

My kids adored dad. He made them laugh. Just a few days before he passed away he wasn't eating much and he could barely talk above a whisper. My kids and grandchildren all went to his room one evening and he perked up. He wanted some ice cream, which he loved. After eating a few small bites he rolled his eyes and licked his lips. They all laughed and he grinned. This brought back a lot of memories to them. He always liked to "cut up" with the kids.

Most people around town called him "Brother Todd". They came from miles around to show their respect at the funeral. What I heard most from the people in the long line of friends was, "Brother Todd changed my life."

We all miss him. He was a great guy. He was my friend. A lot of people were saved through his preaching. Lives were changed. He built churches. He preached the word.

Like Pastor Mike wrote, we will have to wait until we all get to heaven to say, "tell us another one Brother Todd." Who knows maybe he'll roll his eyes and lick his lips.

# WORLD MISSIONS



## 50 YEARS OF MINISTRY From Rev. Larry & Nilda Russell

January 12, 2011 will mark 50 years for me as a missionary. For 31 of those years I have been a missionary with the IMA. I want to thank everyone who has faithfully stood with me and supported me with your prayers and love gifts. I realize that we are laborers together with Christ and that we have reached this milestone together. I am finding out every day how far the ripples, of my ministry, in the sea of humanity have gone; the people whose lives have been touched and the ones that have been changed. Only eternity will record all that we have accomplished for the Kingdom of God.



Much of my ministry has been to Native Americans. Several years ago an *eagle feather* was awarded to me by a leader of the Dakotah Nation. In awarding it he said, "If you hadn't brought the Gospel to me, I wouldn't be here. I would have been dead by now. The Gospel, changed my heart and saved my life."

I have received reports from a Native American Gospel Band who thanked me for preaching the Gospel to them. They are all saved and are preaching the Gospel in places I have never been able to go. One brother, we had ordained, gave them a tent and a large generator; they went into Alaska where over 1000 new converts were baptized. Many miracles, even the raising of the dead, were reported.

When I was back home, in the United States, I had the opportunity to visit one of the local churches. The pastor had me say a few words. In his introduction, he mentioned the influence I had on his life when he first became a Christian.

I'm now back in the Philippines on the island of Bohol. There is still much to do for the Lord as I begin the next half-century. The journey has been exciting and rewarding.

### Merry Medicine from Pastor David Siningar

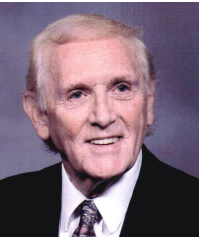


My 50-something friends and I decided to introduce their mother to the magic of the Internet. The first move was to access the popular "Ask Jeeves" site, and so we told her it could answer any question she had.

The mother was very skeptical until we assured her, "It's true. Think of something to ask it."

Then as we sat with fingers poised over the keyboard, the older woman thought a minute, then responded, "How is Aunt Helen feeling?"

## IN LOVING MEMORY

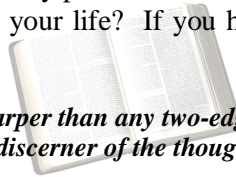


**Rev. Dr. William "Bill" Todd**, Pastor Emeritus at Christian Center Church, Homosassa, Florida, went home to be with the Lord on Thursday, December 23, 2010. He was born on June 25, 1920 in Sullivan, Kentucky. He was 90. Rev. Todd is survived by his wife of 10 years, Vedia and his son Paul. He was preceded in death by his wife Barbara of 56 years and daughters Angeline Wright and Gloria Todd. Rev. Todd was a member of the IMA for 48 years having served as District Chairman, District Board Member and National Conference Speaker. We send our deepest condolences to his wife, family and friends.

**Rev. Gerald E. "Jerry" Johnson**, Evansville, Indiana, went home to be with the Lord on Thursday, December 30, 2010. He was born March 28, 1938, in Evansville, Indiana. He was 72. Rev. Johnson is survived by his wife of 43 years, Suzanne, his daughter Stacy Jones and son, Christopher. He was preceded in death by his parents and a brother Jay. Rev. Johnson was a veteran of the United States Air Force. He owned and operated Johnson's Barber Shop. He was a member of the IMA for 31 Years. We send our deepest condolences to his wife, family and friends.



(BIBLE Continued) heart. **KNOW IT** (II Tim. 3:15). I encourage you to memorize God's Word and know what it says! Finally, **MEDITATE ON IT** (Josh. 1:8; Ps. 1:2, 119:15). Day and night, let the Words of God be your foremost thoughts. I believe that transformation is only possible with God's Word. How can you hear these living, true words of the Almighty and not see a difference in your life? If you have doubts, try it, and let others know just what *your* Bible can do!



*"For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart." Heb. 4:12*

*These are the last public words of William Booth (Founder of the Salvation Army) at the age of eighty-two and almost blind.*

*While women weep as they do now, I'll fight.  
While children go hungry as they do now, I'll fight  
When men go to prison, in and out, I'll fight  
While there is a drunkard left, I'll fight  
While there is a poor girl left on the streets, I'll fight  
While there remains one dark soul without the light of God, I'll fight*

*I'll fight—I'll fight to the very end.*

### PASTORAL POSITION WANTED

Rev. Rheuben Dixon, Sr.  
PO Box 6342  
Roswell, NM 88202-6342  
Phone: 575-635-5645  
Email: GodsmEd@msn.com

**CAN RELOCATE**

IMA Member for 7 years

## COFFEE CUP CORNER

*From St. John The Beloved, contributing author*

### Why Christians should hire atheists at their workplace!



"I always try to hire heathens and atheists in the store that I run" said the manager of Kwak-Mart to the fellow believers at the One-sided Full Gospel Church he attended. "But why?" asked a Christian Brother. "Well, the first reason is, I feel it my duty to try to be a light to those in darkness...you know the whole thing of 'letting my light shine' for the Lord." Replied the Christian Brother, "But don't you think you should help your fellow believers with a job?" "Not really, because, well, God will take care of them; they have Jehovah-jirah...their Provider..." said the manager. "And besides that, as a Christian, I celebrate a lot of religious holidays, and I don't like to be away from my family at those times; I also see these Sabbath-experiences as a way to devote myself to God, i.e., by attending celebration services; like during Christmas and Easter." Inquisitive, the Brother pressed, "What does ...you observing religious holidays have to do with having atheists work for you?" "Oh, that's the second point" said the manager, "religious holidays mean nothing to them; and besides that, they never complain when I schedule them to work on Christmas or Easter!"

### INTERNATIONAL MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION, INC.

5201 W. Homosassa Trail  
Lecanto, FL 34461-9117

Phone (352) 628-5198 ■ Fax (352) 628-5195  
Email: imahdq@aol.com ■ Web: Interma.net

### EDITOR

Dr. Paul Todd

The views expressed in the Herald Newsletters do not necessarily reflect the consensus of IMA members