NEWSLETTER UNLIMITED PRAYER

If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and forgive their sin and heal their land (2 Chronicles 7:14 NKJV).

We need to tell the world that grace is God's unimaginable generosity.

It has been well said that the religion of many people is like a headache - they have no desire to lose their head, but it hurts them to keep it. This leads to the question: Is Christianity hard or easy? Or put another way: Is Christianity possible only to those who have a strong will, or can even moral weaklings "hold out" and "hold on"? A third way of asking the question is to inquire, "Does salvation depend mostly upon God's doing or mine?"

The Apostle Paul wrote, "I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes." "For there is no distinction... for the same Lord over all is rich to all that call upon him" (Romans 1:16; 10:12).

The power to live the Christian life is not a power generated from within us or by us: it is a power from without, even the power of Christ, freely given to everyone that by faith maintains a living union with him. Jesus, as the Son of Man, confessed his own lack of personal power: "I can of Myself do nothing." "The Father who dwells in me, does the works" (John 5:30; 14:10).

As the Father lived in Christ and enabled him to be victorious in every phase of his experience, so Christ promises to dwell in every believer, empowering him or her to live a righteous life. Christ declares, "Without me you can do nothing," but then encourages us by saying that we "can do all things through Christ who strengthens" us.

Let us note well that Christ does not want to be our helper, but our life. Not heaven someday, but Christ right now is the Christian message. It has been well said that the principle of Christianity is the principle of an exchanged life. Our great need is not a striving for more faith but a continued looking toward Christ, the faithful One who is now our life.

Part of the good news of Christianity is that those who believe in Christ have a God who is near at hand for all emergencies - a Christ available for everything.

The Holy Spirit in us is the pledge of receiving all things necessary for life and godliness. This is the great significance of Pentecost when the third member of the Godhead had his Bethlehem, taking up his abode with humanity, even the humanity of all believers in Christ. God has not left us alone. We are not to fight in our own puny strength. Christ is with us through his Spirit, forever with us, for all things.

DES FORD

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THE YES AND THE AMEN

For all the promises of God in Him are Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us (2 Corinthians 1:20 KJV).

Jesus is the Yes and the Amen to all the promises of God. This is covenant language. Throughout the Old Testament and into the New, God repeatedly made covenants with his chosen people.

These covenants were really all the same and typical of those made in other nations between King and subjects. God made promises to certain individuals and groups, and in response he asked the people to be obedient to his commands. He promised blessings to those who kept his requirements, but curses if they disobeyed.

Jesus is the 'yes' to God's blessings In the New Testament God has forged a covenant with those who believe in Christ and his sacrifice. Here it is based on the obedience of Jesus, the sinless one, who knew no sin. He lived a perfect life. He died an atoning death. And both his life and death are offered in the place of the sinner.

Paul made it clear that this covenant is very superior to the old ones. He stated: "How much more glorious is the ministry that brings righteousness. For what was glorious has no glory now in comparison with the surpassing glory" (2 Corinthians 3:9-10). When people read Moses, Paul says, their minds were made dull as though a veil covered their heart.

"But whenever anyone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit" (2 Corinthians 3:16-18).

> **GILL FORD** Adapted from *Jesus* + 0

Hope for the Future

Stas is 34 years old and is a participant of the "Pay it Forward" project, an initiative created, thanks to your support, by our GNU pastor in Ukraine, in association with a group of Christians, to

help addicts in addiction treatment both financially and spiritually.

The God of Stas' childhood was a ritual, and you can't have a personal relationship with a ritual. He got caught up in drugs and his mother often worried about him. When she died, he walked away from God and left the faith completely.

Stas says it was then that he hit the "bottom of the barrel". He slept in

crack houses and communal hallways in blocks of flats. When he found out



God is leading Stas to true healing in Jesus

that he had HIV, he finally decided it was time to quit drugs before they killed him.

Stas met someone who told him about a rehab centre in Poltava and they even helped him to pay for his treatment. At first, he was hesitant about attending the Bible meetings led by a GNU pastor, but as he gradually learned more about the gospel, he made peace with God.

Thanks to your support Stas now has a personal relationship with God and knows that God loves him and cares for him. When he told us his story, he had been sober for fifty days now – the beginning of what he is confident will be a lifelong journey.

Santhamma finds Jesus

The story of *Jesus Only* is captivating more hearts, thanks to the commitment of our GNU family. When Pastor Joseph offered Santhamma a copy of Jesus Only, she refused. She was Hindu, and proud of it. But Pr Joseph visited her again, and she accepted the book because he seemed so happy about being a Christian, and this was his gift to her. What a transformation! The story of Jesus was like nothing she had ever heard – and it spoke directly to her heart. She learned that she only needed to ask Jesus, and he would change her life. It hasn't stopped there. She can't resist sharing this good news!.

GNU Blog on the Bus

The Gospel finds people everywhere, and a bus in Kenya is no exception. Pr Bonifresh, GNU's pastor in Kenya, was catching up on the latest blogs on GNU's website when his seatmate confessed she was reading over his shoulder. Carolyne was already a Christian, but she found the message of GNU so powerful that now her entire youth group is asking to know more. We're grateful to God that our gospel messages find Christians who are looking for a closer and more vibrant relationship with Jesus Christ

Finding Fellowship Online

A young man in Uganda is praising God that you helped him find the gospel through GNU's daily devotionals. Lubega subscribed to the GNU daily devotionals through a friend's email account in 2016. He began to make prayer requests via the GNU website. God was working on his heart.

The same friend who introduced Lubega to these devotionals later introduced him to GNU's Pastor Bonifresh. From then on, Lubega kept in touch with Pr Bonifresh, asking him many questions about the Gospel, until he decided to commit his life to Christ. Through the ministry of GNU, Lubega was baptised earlier this year.

Since then, Lubega has continued to read GNU's daily devotionals and has now started his own small group where he and his friends discuss the Gospel, sing, and pray together. They meet on Fridays in one of their homes and are very passionate about learning as



Thanks to GNU's Daily Devotionals, Lubega is thrilled to know the Gospel

much as they can about the Gospel and growing in their relationship with Jesus Christ.

Pr Bonifresh feels privileged to be working with Lubega, whose group now has about 8-15 members and continues to grow as the community sees the changes that God is working in their lives. He writes to us that, "With God's blessing, we hope this group will be another Gospel nucleus in Kampala and the whole of Uganda."

A MILLION MORE

We don't need a million more dollars (although we won't say no). We need a million more people to find out about Jesus and hear the Good News! That way, many of them can be saved.

So, however much or little you want to give to GNU's Gospel work, **please help**. Every little gift will help. Even if you don't think it's very much, **God can multiply it in his hands**.

We need to raise \$47,000 for our End-Of-Financial-Year Appeal in order to continue our work of sharing the message of Jesus.

Over the last twelve months, **7** million people were reached with the Good News by our ministry (and that's a very conservative number). We blew past the target of a million every year, and now our aim is to reach a million people every month with a message about Jesus that brings salvation and peace.

Good News Unlimited is able to reach 18 people with the Gospel for every \$10 that we receive. We do this through radio, television, digital, and on-the-ground ministry. Approximately 30% of these people are in developed English-speaking nations such as the USA, the UK, Australia, New Zealand and Canada.

Here is what some of them have to say. Eddie from the USA writes,

I began drinking in the Good News of the gospel through your messages. I could not get enough! I credit your messages with bringing to my heart the wonderful gospel of Christ our Lord.

Philip from Australia says,

Thank you for introducing me to who Jesus is and to the Gospel. I never knew these things before, until now. May God bless your work even more!



Eddie credits GNU with bringing the Gospel to his heart.

Join hands with us to spread the Gospel.

Tammy from the USA sent us this message:

Thanks for helping me to be a born again and have faith in God. **It's because of you!** May God bless you always!

And of course, by supporting GNU, you are also reaching

souls throughout the developing countries of of the world.

Laxton wrote to us from Tanzania and said,

I was a drunkard and upon receiving your inspiring words I have decided to follow Jesus Christ as my Lord and personal saviour. I am fully blessed by GNU. God bless you!

You can see why I'm excited! However, our need for financial help to continue to share the Gospel is great. It can only be met by **people like you**. And although I'm excited, I'm not satisfied. I want to see a million more lives transformed by the grace of Jesus! Don't you?

Please open your heart to the plight of those who are perishing without a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ around the world.

Join hands with us. <u>Give generously to help us reach our</u> **\$47,0000 goal.**

Please prayerfully complete and return the donation slip on the back page.

Grace and peace,

Eliezer Gonzalez Senior Pastor, Good News Unlimited

PS - Think prayerfully about the blessings you have received from Jesus, and please give generously.

my gift to do the work of Jesus

Eliezer, I want to give a gift to help a million more across the world who are thirsty for the amazing Gospel of Jesus Christ!

I began drinking in the Good News through your messages.

Eddie, USA

Enclosed is my gift of \$

Please follow the instructions on the reverse, cut along the perforation, and return this slip to GNU in the enclosed reply-paid envelope.

FROM ELI'S DESK

Dear Friends

Since the recent passing of Dr Des Ford, there is one question that I have been asked more often than any other: "What's going to happen to GNU now? Is GNU going to fold? Will it collapse?"

Absolutely not! GNU has been carefully preparing, during the last six years, for this time when Des would no longer be with us.

I would like to reaffirm to you the commitment of the Directors of Good News Unlimited, and my own personal commitment as well, to ensure, as far as it is within our means and the will of God, that the ministry of GNU continues to share the Gospel until Jesus comes again.

However, this ministry also depends on you. My assumption is that all those who knew Des and who love the Gospel will want to support the ministry he founded so that his message will continue to be heard, proclaiming the Gospel for the salvation of many.

Thank you to those of you who have been founding contributors to the Des Ford Memorial Fund. You can still do so by letting us know that this is where you'd like your donation to go.

Grace and peace

Eliezer Gonzalez Senior Pastor, Good News Unlimited

INTRODUCING JOSH BERRIGAN

We're delighted to welcome Josh Berrigan to our GNU family. Josh is a youth pastor at Hillsong church on the Gold Coast.

Representing GNU, Josh will be hosting a radio show called "Real Life." His goal is to reach young people with a gospel message that's highly relevant to their contemporary lives and challenges. He wants them to know that there is more to life than what they may have learned from their friends, their families, and from the world in which they have been raised. He wants to bring them the good news of Jesus Christ and give them the message that will bring purpose and meaning to their lives.

Josh is thirty-three years old, so he's young enough to relate to the younger generations, and at the same time, has the maturity and wisdom to lead this next generation. He has been married to his wife for seven years and has two wonderful kids. He truly has the life experience necessary to train this next generation in the ways of Christ.

Josh has one overriding passion: to spread the Good News to everyone, everywhere, no matter what their circumstances.



My gift to help spread the Word of the Gospel Fast

I would like to give my gift by:

□ Credit Card (Please indicate card type) □ Visa □ Mastercard □ Amex

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Expiry Date:

Name:

Signature:

Cheque/Money Order (Australia Only) (Please make cheque to Good News Unlimited Ltd and enclose)

Direct Deposit: Acc Name: Good News Unlimited Ltd BSB: 032-278 Acct Number: 651816 Ref: Initial, Surname, & 'Donation' Swift Code: WPACAU2S (for international transfers)

□ I would like a tax-deductible receipt (Tax-deductible receipts can only be issued to Australian tax-payers, and only for sharing the Gospel on radio and the media in Australia.)

You can also give securely online at: goodnewsunlimited.com/donate

Please complete the information and return to: Good News Unlimited, PO Box 973, Penrith NSW 2751 ABN 34 235 659 914



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