MARCH 2020 / ISSUE #20

# UNLIMETER UNLIMETER

The heart of the Gospel is summarised in the very centre of the most well known of Bible verses, in these two words: "he gave" (John 3:16). Why did he give? "For God so loved the world". How much did he give? "His one and only Son". For what purpose did he give? "That whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

The apostle Paul takes up this same theme again and again, as in our text on the left.

The giving of God isn't limited to the Cross, for it is from there that all of God's gifts flow. It is the fountainhead of blessings. He gave and he continues to give. The uncalculated and boundless dimension of our heavenly Father's giving is illustrated in the teaching of our Lord in the Sermon on the Mount, the constitution of the Kingdom of Heaven. There, Christ teaches us that the Most High "is kind to the ungrateful and wicked" (Luke 3:35), and he causes "his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous" (Matthew 5:45). Have you ever noticed that it is "his" sun, and not "the" sun? God is giving what is his alone.

The Gospel is a story of a gift that continues to be offered and received, for the joy and the salvation of many. It isn't that God gives us something. He gives us everything, simply because at the core of his nature is unselfish love and generosity (Exodus 34:6-7).

In the Sermon on the Mount, the Lord teaches us that we have a reciprocal obligation. It's not a meritorious obligation; it's an obligation that will flow on naturally and unforced in the lives of those who have received and understood the gifts of God.

> As a consequence of you having received the Gospel, God doesn't ask for your money, or your time, or your talents; he asks for everything, all of you. It goes

> > (Continued on page 2)

He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things (Romans 8:32, NIV).

He gave...

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## **ARE YOU THIRSTY?**

#### For 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, NIV).

One of Jesus' great words is 'whoever'. On another occasion he said, 'Whoever is thirsty, let him come; and whoever wishes, let him take the free gift of the water of life' (Revelation 22:17). That's the one condition for salvation: Are you thirsty?

That's easy. You don't have to have a degree - a BA. The only BA you need is Born Again. That's awarded when you're thirsty - the only condition. The only command for salvation is 'If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink' (John 7:37 TLB, emphasis added).

Later, Christ tells you about the Ten Commandments (others as well), but for salvation there's only one commandment: 'Come to me and drink.' What a wonderful message about our Creator!

God is kind to the ungrateful and to the selfish. I don't feel like being kind to the ungrateful and selfish. But God is so much better than we are. God makes the sun to rise on the evil and the good. God sends rain on the just and the unjust. What a God!

'Whoever believes in him is not condemned' (John 3:18). Those who believe are justified; and being justified is better than being forgiven. 'Justified' means 'accounted as not guilty.' Counted as being not guilty is one step beyond being forgiven. 'Whoever believes in Jesus is not condemned but justified' - what a message!

[Romans 8:27-32. Adapted from "God With Us: Christ in All the Gospels – 3"]

DES FORD

## A NEEDY WORLD THANKS YOU

Here are some recent messages we have received from different parts of the world.

Thank you for reaching me with the Gospel. I am deeply interested in the Word of God. I need you to help me understand the teachings of Jesus Christ and also to - Wa Ariet Nyawath strengthen my faith.

Through reading your ministry's material, Dr. E, I have understood the essentials for my spiritual life. I need your prayer to help me spread the Gospel of Christ to Muslim nations and to the worshippers of other gods that are found in many parts of Ethiopia. God bless you and your ministry! — Lemessa Belay

Thanks a lot for the Good News and for bringing us close to our Creator. May the Almighty One bless you. Keep on inspiring the world with the message of salvation from God, -Christophene Amunyela

I have no idea how I came across Good News Unlimited, but I am sure glad I did! Thank you so much! I have just been born again and I really need help to grow spiritually in my faith in God. Thank you so much, Eli! May God help you grow in his wisdom. -Abner Luvano

#### **HOW GOD CHANGES THE REALITY OF YOUR LIFE**

#### (from page 1)

deeper than anything you can count. Christ teaches us that we are to give as we have been given, so that "you will be children of the Most High" (Luke 6:35). We are enjoined to enter into the depths of the Father's giving, and to "...be merciful, just as your Father is merciful" (v.36). This is what the Lord meant when he called us to "Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect" (Matthew 5:48).

When you think about what you give to God, don't think in terms of some hours spent in church, or volunteering for some worthy cause, or your offerings or tithes. The Apostle to the Gentiles tells us what God asks for. In the context of God's own giving, he wrote,

I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God-this is your true and proper worship (Romans 12:1).

Christ died for you despite the cost. God doesn't want some calculated part of you. He wants all of you, and all you have, given freely out of love for others, because you have entered into his heart of love.

That is the proper and ultimate response to the Gospel.



ELIEZER GONZALEZ, Senior Pastor, GNU

## WHAT WE'VE DONE TOGETHER

The number of countries where people heard GNU's message of salvation. That's every accessible nation on planet earth!

# 11 million

The number of people we reached with the Gospel increased ten-fold, to almost 11 million people.

The number of people who engaged with GNU's Gospel-based reading plans via the YouVersion online website.

Thousands were baptised, and many tens of thousands of people accepted the Gospel of Jesus Christ.\* **60,000** The number of people on GNU's mailing list to receive daily devotions doubled from 30,000 to a high of 60,000.

10000 Increase in donations, thanks to the Lord's blessing. (Our costs increased by more, as we worked to extend our ministry reach.)

# During the 2018/19 Financial Year, the ministry of Good News Unlimited was blessed to be able to deliver for the Gospel right across the globe.

\* Based on reports from our supporters and contributors: It's difficult to have accurate figures, because our ministry doesn't have a command and control structure.



# my gift to do the work of Jesus

Eliezer, I want to give a gift to help GNU continue to reach the world with the Gospel.

Thank you for reaching me with the Gospel.

New Subscriber

#### 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.





#### Dear Friend

GNU doesn't exist to give me a job. That's why I don't run it as if it did. It doesn't exist to provide me with a comfortable life. That's why I drive around in an old car. If you're surprised about that, then you're probably supporting the wrong ministry.

In our decisions about everything we do, we make it our first priority to reach as many people, as soon as possible, with the Gospel. That's why we're in the situation we're in. In faith, we push the boundaries of what is possible.

I recently sent many of you a letter, letting you know that GNU is in a season of waiting on the Lord. After a rapid time of growth last year in both ministry reach and donations, the ministry has found itself in the situation where the former has outstripped the latter.

As a result, GNU has had to take "a breather" until our bank account is replenished through your generosity, and we are able to resume normal ministry operations. During this time, I am volunteering as well, and most of our ministry's back-end operations are suspended. I can assure you that the vast bulk of our front-line ministry continues, and reaching lost souls for Christ continues. However, we will need to

restart our essential operations at some stage soon, in order to continue.

Your response to my letter has been encouraging. In three weeks, our general bank account, from which most of our ministry operations are funded, has gone from a balance of \$6,000 to \$26,000. However, this isn't yet near where we need it to be, so please continue to pray, and to give strongly, as you are able to.

Please remember that right now, GNU doesn't need more money in its tax deductible Media Fund, which is holding a healthy balance. We are unable to access this money for our main ministry expenses. It can be used only for media work in Australia.

This is a time for prayer and waiting to see how the Lord will provide. I'm thrilled to see what God will do next through GNU. Whatever it is, we will continue to depend on your continued commitment to the work of sharing the Gospel, empowered by the Spirit of the Lord.

I will continue to update you as to how things progress.

Grace and Peace,

### 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

Card Number:

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



GNU0619A [Unique Donor ID]