

ISSUE SEVEN

REBUILT

TO LIVE A GREAT STORY

PRESENCE OF GOD

PAGE 12

PAGE 12

PAGE 04
CHRIST IN THE
FLAMES OF
COVID-19

THE FIGHT TO REGAIN WHAT HAS BEEN LOST

PAGE 08
FAITH
OVER FEAR

PAGE 18
SOCIAL
DISTANCING
IS NOTHING
NEW

SUMMER 2020

REBUILT MAGAZINE

REBUILTMAGAZINE.COM

REBUILT

TO LIVE A GREAT STORY

rebuiltmagazine.com

rebuiltmagazine@gmail.com

We're a global magazine with versions published in the USA, Southeast Asia, Amsterdam, and the Philippines.

Rebuilt Magazine is written, laid out, and printed by young adult who love Jesus and want to write about God, life, and college. We hope this magazine is helpful, challenging, and thought-provoking while also encouraging you to pursue a strong relationship with Jesus.

CONTRIBUTING LOCATIONS:



India



Philippines



Netherlands



USA

**WANT
TO
SHARE
YOUR
IDEAS?**



EMAIL

REBUILTMAGAZINE@GMAIL.COM

**WITH YOUR
CREATIVE WORKS!**

what's inside...

ISSUE 7

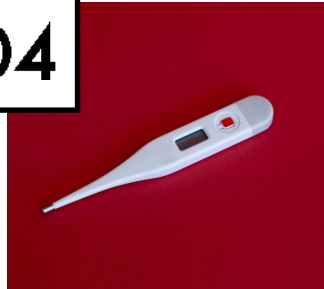
FEATURED

12



PRESENCE OF GOD
THE FIGHT TO REGAIN WHAT HAS
BEEN LOST

04



CHRIST IN THE FLAMES
A CHRISTIAN'S COVID-19 EXPERIENCE

08



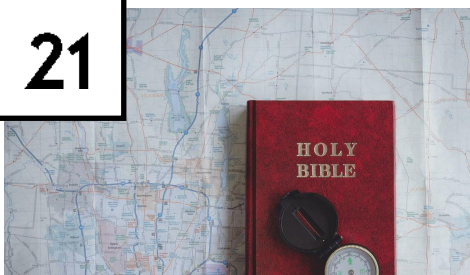
FAITH OVER FEAR
FACING OUR FEAR OF THE
GLOBAL PANDEMIC

15



AS A MATTER OF FACT
WHO IS JESUS?

21



A BIBLE STUDY IN EZEKIEL
"KNOW THAT I AM THE LORD"

06

WHAT IS CHURCH?
GOD'S PEOPLE ON MISSION TOGETHER

07

ONE GIRL'S TRUE STORY
THE UNFAILING LOVE OF GOD: MENDED BROKENNESS

10

DEAR WORLD
A MESSAGE OF ENCOURAGEMENT

11

A LIFE NOT THEIR OWN
ACTION WHEN DISRUPTION HITS HOME

16

DRAGONS, ELVES, AND MAGIC SPELLS
OUR CURIOUS CRAVING FOR FANTASY STORIES

18

SOCIAL DISTANCING IS NOTHING NEW
GOD'S SOLUTION TO THE PANDEMIC OF LONELINESS



CHRIST IN THE FLAMES *of* COVID-19

On the woeful evening of July 3rd, I received the news, “Sir and madam, you both are tested positive.” I could feel the blood drain out of my body. I just stared at my husband.

The world began to whirl around me. We were quarantined immediately that night. But I couldn’t sleep. We have three children: two teenagers and a six-year old. “Who would take care of them if anything dreadful happened to us?” “What is their future?” “Will we recover?” After I was tested positive for COVID-19, my neighbouring doctor said, “Physically you will be fine; it’s the mind that you have to take care of.” I was asymptomatic so he was sure that I would recover, but the irrational fears began to grow in me.

When we were shifted to the hospital the next day, the questions lingered in my mind. I tried to pray but there was more fear than faith in those prayers. Worry and anxiety captured me. But constantly there was the thought of God coming to my mind. The struggle between worry and prayer was raging. I submitted myself to God in prayer: my fears, my doubts, my unanswered questions. In surrender, there is much joy because the peace that passes all understanding began to guard my heart, my emotions, and thoughts.¹

As my husband and I continued to stay in the hospital, the Holy Spirit continuously led us to read and meditate on the scriptures. They were fresh waters to the thirsty and weary soul. All the Scripture that I had learnt from my childhood began to appear anew.

In Daniel 3:16-18 we read about the story of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego in the fiery furnace. But there was a fourth person with them in the fire. The three friends and the angel were totally unaffected by the increased heat; not even the smell of fire was on them (3:27). Then the king said, "Praise be to the God of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, who has sent his angel and rescued his servants!" (3:28)

Also, in Daniel's own life, we see how he resolutely prayed to YHWH even though he was instructed to worship king Darius. So, he was punished and thrown into the lion's den. But when he was released, he came out without a scratch. Then the king issued a decree, "In every part of my kingdom people must fear and reverence the God of Daniel." (6:26) Even in this case like his friends, Daniel didn't give in to the fear of the earthly king or the wild beasts. He feared the Lord almighty. God was faithful to Daniel and rescued him. God was exalted even in the enemy's camp.

But with all these reminders, I still had my doubts and fears; I was frail in my mind. Then, the Holy Spirit led me to the prayer of Jesus in the garden of Gethsemane (Mark 14:36). "Abba, Father, everything is possible for you. Take this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will." I was exhausted. But God was not done with me. He took me to the Psalms.

"I cried out to God for help; I cried out to God to hear me.

When I was in distress, I sought the Lord; at night I stretched out untiring hands, and I would not be comforted.

I remembered you, God, and I groaned; I meditated, and my spirit grew faint.

You kept my eyes from closing; I was too troubled to speak.

I thought about the former days, the years of long ago." (Ps. 77:1-5)

Through the reading of the Psalm, God reminded me of my past, his grace when he first saved me from my sin, his mercy to keep my husband and me asymptomatic, his love towards our family, and above all, his constant faithfulness. His Spirit calmed my fears with his promises from the past. God kept Daniel and his friends when they had been captured. He was faithful to them in the enemy's territory. He did not leave them. He was with them in the fire. The fire did not disappear, but God was with them through the flames. He did not let the flames harm them. The virus was in me, but God had not left me alone. I knew his presence was with me in the hospital. Slowly, my fears faded and his endearing presence enveloped me. My husband and I prayed for his presence to continue to clear our minds even as our bodies develop the antibodies.

Fears and anxious thoughts are unprecedented during these times, but God is present in the direst consequences. He was with my husband and me and helped us to recover physically and mentally. Through the journey, he was with us revealing himself to us through his word. Jesus suffered much; he knows our struggles. His Spirit warmed our cold minds. God had never left our side. We recovered well and joined our children with rejuvenated minds and bodies.



¹ *"And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." (Phil. 4:7)*



As a Matter of Fact **WHAT IS CHURCH?**

At times Christianity can be confusing. When you start to read the Bible there can be names of people and places you have never heard before. There will be words that have little to no meaning outside of the world of faith, and then, even more confusing are words that you know, but when they are carried over to Christianity, they might have an even greater depth of meaning than ever realized before. Knowing that it can at times be overwhelming, let's go back to the basics to tackle common questions. These are questions that are not only integral for the new believer, but also for the seasoned Christian and anyone who is skeptical about the Christian faith. They are truths that you never move beyond.

WHAT IS CHURCH?

The word church generates images of old brick buildings, full of beautiful stained glass, heavy wooden pews, crosses hung on the walls, and pulpits front and center. Church has become synonymous with the building where traditional religious services take place. To view church solely this way would be a severe mistake. The church being perceived as a mere building is greatly underselling what Jesus and Scripture intend the church to be. In the Bible, the word used for church is describing a unique group of people. The biblical definition of church is a called-out assembly.¹ Whenever it is used in the Bible it refers to people. Simply put, the church is the people who are transformed and adopted by God. All Christians are the church.

WHY CHURCH?

To fully understand what the church is you must also understand its purposes. It is designed to train and equip believers to do what Jesus intended them to do.

It is where Christians are to be built up and strengthened. The church is where believers become more unified in their knowledge and understanding of who God is and what His plans are. The church is used by God for Christians to mature and grow into the people that God intends them to be.²

It is in the church where Christians can obey commands such as bear one another's burdens, love one another, honor one another, stir up one another to good works, admonish and correct each other, and speak truth to one another. The church exists for believers to engage in one another's lives in a real way that is going to make a real difference in each other's lives and for the purposes of Christ.

It is clear that the mission of God is largely dependent on the church. Commitment to the church is a necessity for anyone that seeks to be in God's will and used by Him in their community and beyond. Allowing a church to fulfill its role in your life requires active engagement and participation. It won't always be easy, but it will always be worth it.

The church of God is a big deal. It is so important that God commands us to not forsake it.³ It is the one institution that will never fall. In the words of Jesus, "I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it" (Matthew 16:18, ESV). God is behind the church. God loves the church because He loves people, not because He is greatly concerned with the majesty of a building. The church is imperfect people, in full realization of their need for a savior, gathering together for training, unity, and accomplishing the mission of Jesus. All of this is done for the glory of God.

¹ patheos.com/blogs/christiancrier/2014/08/28/what-is-the-bible-definition-of-church-what-is-the-biblical-view-of-church/

² Ephesians 4:11-14

³ Hebrews 10:25

One girl's TRUE STORY

THE UNFAILING LOVE OF GOD: MENED BROKENNESS

This testimony is from KC, a Christian in the Philippines

A At a very young age, I was taught the act of prayer. I remember my grandma wrote a prayer for me to memorize as my daily request. Then I was introduced to church services and community involvement. Through that, faith came into my consciousness and became the first step as I began to acknowledge God in my life. In short, He pursued me even before I knew Him. Yet along my walk, I encountered a very serious challenge that tested every bit of faith I had.

My mom did something terribly hurtful that broke my dad's heart. Seeing him hurt like that made me resent her and distance myself. It wore me down and made me question the existence of God. I could have clung to Him, but instead I came to the point where I started doubting, distrusting, and falling under the burden of thinking I would never forgive or love again. My worship turned into grief, prayers turned into grumbling, and love turned into hate. As days went by, I continued living full of hatred towards my mother, and I was ashamed of what people might say if they found out.

I could not pray, and I put all the blame on Him for allowing it to happen. The only question I could utter was, "If He is a good God, then why did He allow such a bad thing to happen?" It affected how I treated people, dealt with problems, and how I viewed life. I even tried to reconcile because I wanted to heal our relationship, but I failed. I failed to understand, failed to talk it over, and failed to forgive. All that because I failed to ask Him for help.

But the story did not end there. During a Bible study with the campus ministry group I attended through my university, we talked about forgiveness. I had heard of that word multiple times, but this time it felt so different. It was as if I was hearing it for the first time. Days passed and I was still bothered by the sensation of the word. It had been almost three years of keeping my hatred and doubts a secret until I finally decided to open up to someone. I was uncertain what would happen, but after the tearful talk, I felt surprisingly relieved, like thorns were pulled out of my body. After that heartfelt moment, I fell down on my knees and cried out in prayer over every bit of the pain I had, and it turned into total forgiveness.



"I WAS UNCERTAIN WHAT WOULD HAPPEN, BUT AFTER THE TEARFUL TALK, I FELT SURPRISINGLY RELIEVED, LIKE THORNS WERE PULLED OUT OF MY BODY."

Since then, the words of God have opened my heart again. Listening to His voice through prayer, I feel peace of mind and deep adoration towards Him. I've realized that I became lost and blind because I let myself be covered with hate and doubt. Now I have a strong belief that the power of someone's love can cast out someone's hate. Finally, I could get to love, know, and show Him the greatest thanksgiving I could ever give, which was to finally reconcile with my mother. Through constant prayer and seeking God's guidance, speaking with my mother has become easier and lighter because I know that she has been forgiven and I have been saved. Today I'm in a season of complete transition as I work out who I used to be, which was buried in isolation and suffering, and into a person who rejoices in the hands of God through anything.

"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world" (John 16:33, NIV).

Because of Him,

KC



FAITH OVER FEAR

FACING OUR FEAR OF THE GLOBAL PANDEMIC

Eyes suddenly open and palms feeling clammy, I wipe the tiny bead of sweat from my forehead. I roll over and the clock reads 3:02 a.m. My heart beats loudly in my ears and I take a few deep breaths, hoping to slow it down. I roll onto my back and stare up at the ceiling in disbelief, thankful it was just a dream. Have you been there? The nightmare

felt so real, and you woke up in a cold sweat. Fear and anxiety have an incredible physical effect on the human body, and our world is no stranger to fear these days. The coronavirus (COVID-19) has affected all of us worldwide, causing stress on individuals and our families. What does fear do to the human body? To learn more, I connected with a doctor from the USA,

"IN TIMES LIKE THESE, FOR THE CHRISTIAN, WE PROVE WHETHER OUR PROCLAIMED TRUST IN THE SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD IS SOMETHING WE ACTUALLY BELIEVE IN."

Dr. H, who has been practicing urgent care medicine for several years and working with college students.

WHAT FEAR DOES TO OUR BODIES

Most of us have a general idea of how our bodies respond in a moment of fear. Our hearts beat faster, our hands get clammy, and maybe we'll start to sweat. Dr. H shared a few more physical symptoms which can occur in response to stress and anxiety, such as mind-racing, tachycardia (elevated heart rate), shortness of breath, chest pains, memory changes, abdominal pain, nausea, aches in neck and shoulders, and much more. I also learned that the effect can be even more serious than we may think.

"When our minds perceive something stressful, there are signals sent to the sympathetic nervous system which then triggers a cascade of hormones that ultimately produce the physical symptoms associated with a hyperarousal state. When these symptoms go unchecked, it can produce detrimental effects on our ability to fight infections, mood disorders (such as prolonged depression), memory changes, and often leads to extensive and expensive medical testing to rule out other disorders without any identifiable physical cause." — Dr. H

I was curious to know if there are additional effects on our health if fear remains for an extended period of time, and Dr. H had insight on this, too.

"Imagine running a car or motor with the gas pedal to the floor for a prolonged time and the wear-and-tear that would do to an engine. That's essentially the same principle when it comes to physical detriment to the human body when in sustained hyperarousal state. Some of the more common effects of prolonged fear

and unresolved anxiety result in clinical depression, weight gain, frequent migraines and headaches, and difficulty with digestion..."

I'll spare you the gruesome details there.

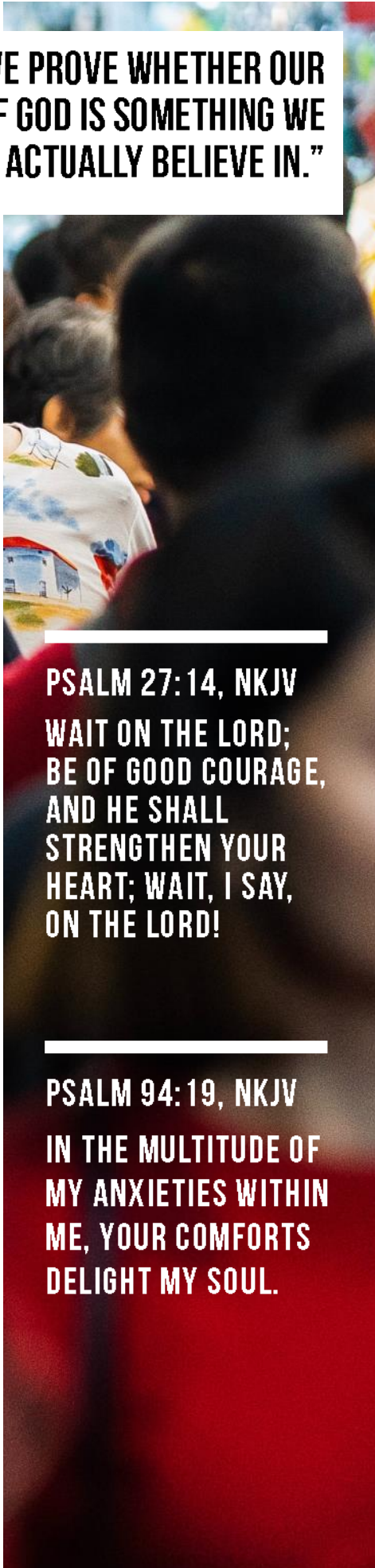
PUTTING FEAR INTO PERSPECTIVE

The threat of COVID-19 is real, and it is natural that our bodies respond to this threat with a little bit of fear. The root of our latest anxieties may be this worldwide virus reminding us of our own mortality or that of our loved ones. But it should also remind us of what was true all along: we are not in control of our lives. In times like these, for the Christian, we prove whether our proclaimed trust in the sovereignty of God is something we actually believe in.

OUR RESPONSE TO FEAR

When a crisis enters our lives, it reveals what we fear most. For many people, it's death or economic hardships. However, our greatest fear should be a lack of right standing with God. Don't waste this fearful time; let it cause you to really think about death. Ecclesiastes 7:2 says, "It is better to go to a house of mourning than to go to a house of feasting, for death is the destiny of everyone; the living should take this to heart." Fear can often show us how weak our faith and trust in God actually is, yet God is gracious and merciful, even to those struggling with belief issues. God wants us to trust Him, and sometimes He uses fear as a means to draw us in.

Don't put your body through the stress that fear and anxiety bring. Instead, pursue God. Admit you don't have control and submit to His. Romans 12:12 says to "rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer" (ESV). Patiently endure suffering. Trust God. Have faith in Him. That's our part.



PSALM 27:14, NKJV
WAIT ON THE LORD;
BE OF GOOD COURAGE,
AND HE SHALL
STRENGTHEN YOUR
HEART; WAIT, I SAY,
ON THE LORD!

PSALM 94:19, NKJV
IN THE MULTITUDE OF
MY ANXIETIES WITHIN
ME, YOUR COMFORTS
DELIGHT MY SOUL.

DEAR WORLD

A Message of Encouragement

Dear World,

It is likely that you are afraid, uncertain, and confused. Life has not gone according to your plans. Times are hard. If you are anything like me, on any given day you look at the news, and a quick read of the most recent headlines is enough to overwhelm you. Headlines full of all the terrible, tragic, and terrifying things that are going on in the world. Crisis surrounds us at all times. I understand the fear, dissatisfaction, and doubts. I know how it feels to be in a panic, unsure of what move to make next.

Currently, the world is facing a worldwide pandemic. It has been said that the entire world is facing an unseen enemy that endangers our hope, joy, peace, and livelihood. It would be easy to let such circumstances burden us to the point of incapacity. The deluge of bad news seems never-ending because our communication is instant, constant, and global. This means we get more bad news than anyone ever has before. There are times where I want to crawl to a corner and just give up.

What are we to do? You see, the problem is that we were not made for bad news. God did not design our souls to believe, trust, and share the bad news all around us. We were created by God to be hearers and bearers of good news, not to become entombed by the chaos and crises that we are surrounded by.

You probably want to know how this is all going to end. Even better, you would probably like to control how everything is going to play out. By this point, you probably have reached some level of frustration at the realization that you don't get that knowledge or control. I want that, but I don't get to have it. Instead, I must learn to be content knowing the One who does know and does have control. And I know that He loves us.

I know what it means to be afraid. I don't know what the future holds, but I do know the One who holds the future. In uncertain and wavering times, He remains constant and unchanging. In times with no hope, He holds out hope. It is tempting to look for some sense of security in all kinds of ridiculous short-term answers. We think we can sanitize and wipe away the mayhem. In a mess that seems to be without any real answers, He presents Himself as the only solution.

Uncertainty and fear are to be expected. Jesus has been winning a battle against an unseen enemy, sin, which has threatened the life of every human being since the Garden of Eden. Trust Jesus. He can ultimately make you okay despite being surrounded by calamity.

Sincerely,

A loving Christian

A LIFE NOT THEIR OWN

ACTION WHEN DISRUPTION HIT HOME

Like much of the rest of the world, it seems like everything is canceled: weddings, events, travel, church, school, and most businesses. Christians are no strangers to life issues in the world. Christians have a calling in all seasons. Listed below are three short stories about how Christians are living out their faith around the world during COVID-19.

In China, Persecuted Church Brings Hope Amid Coronavirus Epidemic¹

The Chinese Christian community knows all about persecution. Recently, they've experienced a heightened level of oppression, and yet when the coronavirus showed up these Christians were ready to continue putting their faith into action by loving their neighbor. One account records a group of Christians distributing face masks and Gospel pamphlets to passersby on the streets. A pastor from Wuhan, where the virus had its initial outbreak said, "While the real situation is possibly more severe and complicated than what is known, regardless of what circumstances we are in, we should not worry and fear all the disasters, pandemic, and death "because He is the Lord of our lives. If He does not allow [it to happen], we will not even have a single hair fallout from our heads."

Rediscovering the Power of Prayer In Italy²

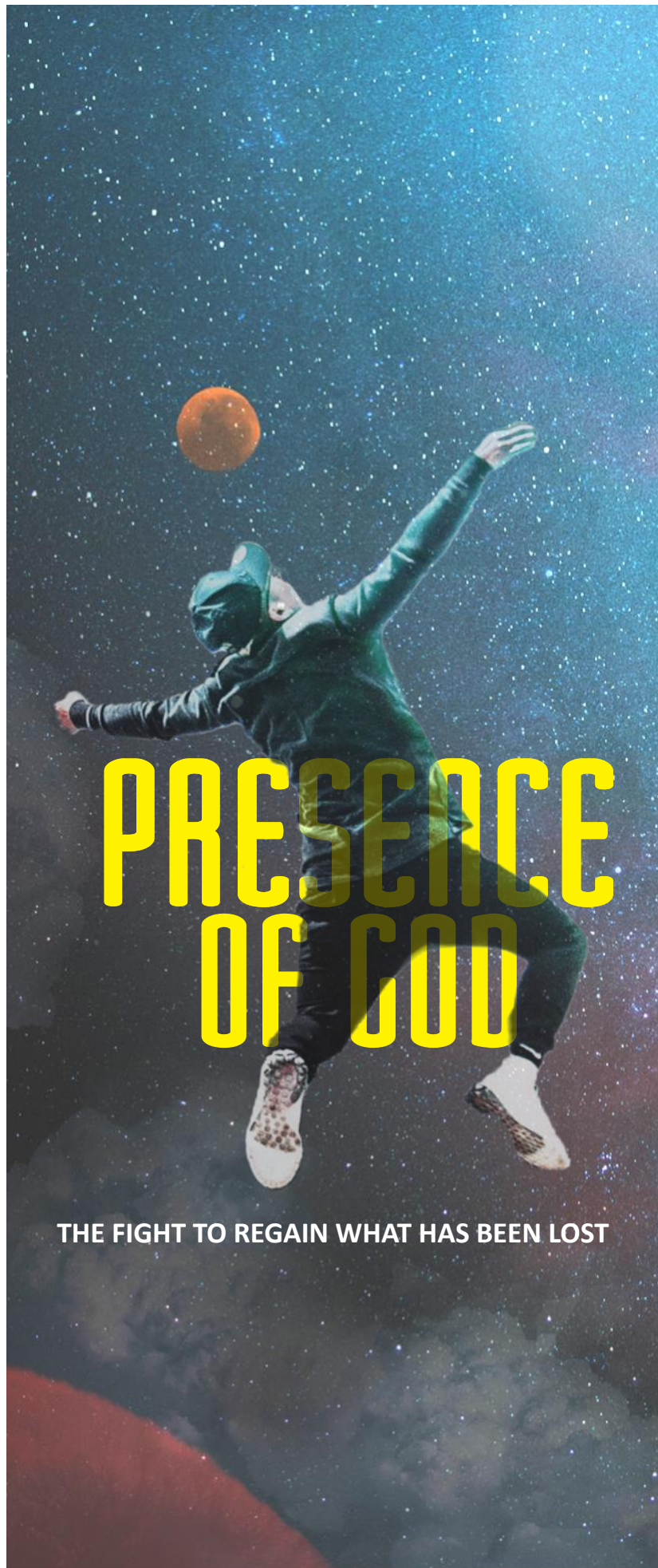
There is a heavy fine to pay for leaving your home without a valid reason in Italy. This season of exile has helped Italian Christians discover three facets of prayer that they often neglect in times of abundance. One Italian Christian records prayers she's learning during this time: prayers of lament, prayers of intercession, and prayers of silence. As humanity struggles to contain fear amidst this anxiety-provoking pandemic, lament feels newly relevant to us. It helps us realize that "gain"

in this world is not the main focus or point of our lives. Despite denominational differences, Italian Christians are unifying and praying for their nation, citizens, and healthcare workers. They've created a common fund to help those in economic need and fasted for their country. "Lord, I'm dumbfounded. I don't know what to say." When words fail us, we can be still and know that God is God. Christians in Italy, like everyone else, are hoping things go back to normal sooner than later, but in the meantime are looking for this pandemic to humble their hearts and teach them the prayers of the weak, concerned, and the speechless.

In Ukraine, Christian Group Steps in to Feed Needy Jews Confined by COVID-19³

Already poverty-stricken in Ukraine, Christians for Israel, a Dutch-based organization, is stepping up to provide immediate food aid to elderly Jews confined by the pandemic to their homes. With the banning of large groups, many soup kitchens have had to close, forcing people who want to help to get more creative. The group aims to deliver more than 300,000 meals throughout the country in the coming months. The help is welcomed considering the political climate keeps citizens in the dark about accurate numbers and how the virus will affect people's livelihoods.

LET'S UNITE WITH OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS AROUND THE WORLD AND PRAY. ACT ON WHAT GOD IS TELLING YOU TO DO IN THIS SEASON, AND CONSIDER HOW YOU CAN LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR WELL.



“If you knew what heaven was like would you even want to go there?”

A pastor posed that question at the very first Christian retreat I ever attended. I was surprised by it. The answer seemed obvious. Yeah, of course I wanted to go there. It’s a place where nothing bad ever happens and everything is perfect, which sounded pretty good to me. I was missing the point though. Going to heaven means being in the presence of God for all eternity, which is incredible and we should all want to go there. However, I’d venture to say that the vast majority of people, even those claiming to be Christian, would rather avoid God’s presence altogether. I know that up until that retreat I certainly wanted to.

How can we run from a God who is everywhere? Aren’t we always in His presence? God is omnipresent, which means He is everywhere all the time. You cannot escape Him. No matter how far you travel, or how fast you run, you will never get away from Him. So, if we are naturally surrounded by His presence, why would the Bible say over and over again to seek Him? Is He lost? No. The only thing that is lost in this situation is effort on our part to consciously turn our wandering mind and heart back towards Him. Seeking Him means our mind is increasingly aware of His reality and our heart is tuning into His desires. The key to understanding how this works, however, is that it is *not* effort fueled out of willpower. It all boils down to a love story that God initiated.

GOD’S PRESENCE IS THE POINT

Have you ever lost something? How frantically did you search for it? If you’re a typical human, the more valuable the item is, the more frantically you search to find it. I’m guessing no one would tear apart their whole house by turning over everything in a panic just to find a misplaced blank sheet of paper. But if that piece of paper was their university diploma, they might. The more value the item holds, the more earnestly we seek it. God is far more valuable than a diploma or anything else we might search for, so we should seek Him above all else.

If you were to look at the whole story of God and His relationship with people, you would see that experiencing His presence is the whole point. Let’s look at the beginning when God created Adam and Eve. Before they rebelled against Him they had a perfect relationship, but then they ruined it

"JESUS DIDN'T DIE SO THAT WE CAN CHECK THE 'CHRISTIAN' BOX UNDER RELIGIOUS PREFERENCES. HE DIED SO THAT WE COULD KNOW HIM LIKE WE KNOW OUR OLDEST AND GREATEST FRIEND. THE PRESENCE OF GOD IS THE WHOLE POINT OF ALL OF CHRISTIANITY."

with sin and messed it up for the rest of humanity in the process. Immediately they began hiding from God and were no longer in His presence. They didn't want His love. But as soon as this happened, God put into motion a plan for the human race so they could still know and experience Him in various ways. In the Old Testament, the Temple is introduced as a physical place where the presence of God would dwell. Then Jesus, God Himself, came into the world as a human to live with people. After Jesus was killed, rose to life, and then ascended to heaven, God sent His Spirit to live inside those who believe in Him. He didn't stop loving them then, and He hasn't stopped loving us now because it doesn't end there for believers. All those who earnestly seek Him, because they love Him in return, will one day be in His presence for all eternity. That is a very brief synopsis of the entirety of the Bible, so I encourage you to read it for yourself and pay attention to how God has always made Himself available so people can be close to Him.

WORTHY

Take a moment to think about the worth of God's presence. The fact that God—the Creator and Sustainer of the universe who holds everything together, who created everything, who knows everything and is in charge of it all—would desire to have a deeply personal relationship with you individually is extraordinary. The fact that He would even know who we are, let

alone allow us to be close to Him, is incredible. And to say that is putting it extremely lightly. He knows exactly what you like and dislike; He knows your thoughts and motivations. He is a God who desires to be in relationship with us, and the magnitude of this offer can be found nowhere else. God's presence is of ultimate worth. So, if His presence is of ultimate worth, it would only make sense that we should more earnestly seek it above all else. But so few do.

TOO EASILY PLEASED

A.W. Tozer, a twentieth century American pastor and author, wrote, "For millions of Christians, God is no more real than He is to the non-Christian. They go through life trying to love an ideal and be loyal to a mere principle." It is a sad truth that many Christians today are content with a Christless version of Christianity.

We are far too easily pleased. Isn't that the truth? In modern-day Christianity I believe we are satisfied with mere activity and outward devotion without actually experiencing the presence of God ourselves. We settle for experiencing worship only while singing songs at church, instead of a daily personal occurrence. We settle for reading the Bible to gain knowledge or check it off the to-do list instead of allowing it to change us as we get to know its Author. We settle for repeated and memorized prayer instead of a continual, honest conversation with our Creator. We

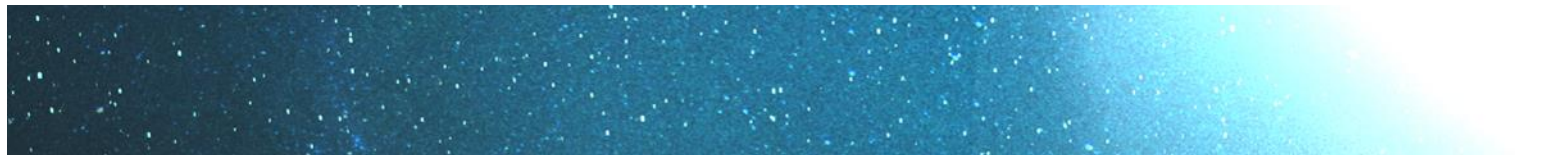
settle for a dry and meaningless religion instead of pursuing God Himself. Jesus didn't die so that we can check the "Christian" box under religious preferences. He died so that we could know Him like we know our oldest and greatest friend. The presence of God is the whole point of all of Christianity.

King David, an ancestor of Jesus and the second king of Israel, is famous for many things. One of those is how earnestly he sought God's presence. He was an author of parts of the Old Testament of the Bible, including Psalm 63 where he described what seeking God's presence was like for him. He wrote that he sought Him early, which meant that it was his highest priority because he was desperate for His closeness. He said it was better than life itself, and this allowed Him to praise God with joy despite his less than ideal circumstances at the time. In Psalm 16:11 he wrote, "In Your presence is fullness of joy." If God's presence is so wonderful, why do so many people miss out on it?

HOW TO SEEK GOD

"When I remember You on my bed, I meditate on You in the night watches. Because You have been my help, therefore in the shadow of Your wings I will rejoice, my soul follows close behind You; Your right hand upholds me" (Psalm 63:6-8. NKJV).

FIGHT TO REMEMBER WHO GOD IS. We do not remember the power and worth of God. We forget who



He is and what He has shown us. We forget for an assortment of reasons but simply put, we are easily distracted by the things we can see directly in front of us. What do you “remember on your bed” in your last moments before drifting off to sleep? Are you worried about an upcoming exam? Wondering when you’ll find your significant other? Thinking of what adventure the upcoming weekend might hold? When we instead remember who God is and our relationship to Him, our entire perspective shifts and our mind becomes more focused on His reality.

“MOST WOULDN’T ADMIT IT, BUT PERHAPS WE DON’T SEEK GOD BECAUSE WE DON’T ACTUALLY WANT TO BE THAT CLOSE.”

FIGHT TO BE DILIGENT. Meditating on God, as David writes in Psalm 63, takes time and effort. Any good relationship takes time and effort, which makes sense among people, but the concept seems to be forgotten when it comes to God. Even though we have access to words He speaks to us, we fail to take the time to read them. We can communicate directly with Him, but it’s easier to check out and scroll through social media. It is far more comfortable to not think deeply about things that have importance. It is easier to float along in life without care or concern. But, when we fight this lazy approach to Christianity and actually take the time to read the Bible, pray, and think about our faith, we will find our heart and mind changing to be more in tune with God’s thoughts and ways.

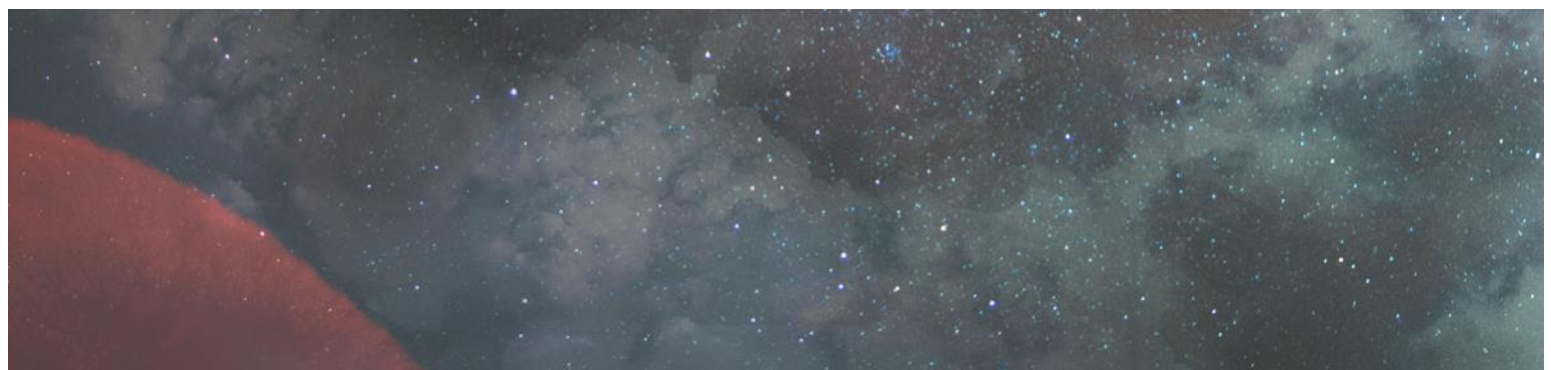
FIGHT TO BE OBEDIENT. If we don’t personally know that God has our back and that He is good, we will never be able to say, “He has been my help,” or, “In the shadow of Your wings I will rejoice.” We don’t put our trust in God and instead turn to a multitude of other things when the going gets tough: people,

money, drugs, alcohol, success, and even more commonly, ourselves. If we trust God, we’ll do what He says, and if we are honest, that is a scary thing. But faith and obedience go hand in hand, and Hebrews 11:6 says that it is impossible to please God without faith.

FIGHT FOR LOVE. Most wouldn’t admit it, but perhaps we don’t seek God because we don’t actually want to be that close. Who is the God we worship? Where is He going that we would follow Him like David describes: “My soul follows close behind You”? Jesus, God in flesh, went to the cross to be crucified and calls His followers to do the same with the way that they live. Frankly, most people would rather avoid the hard things in Christianity. We would like to pretend that we can just add a little Jesus to our life as it is instead of completely giving it up to follow Him. Maybe we’ll go to church on Sundays, but change the trajectory of our life and lay down our dreams and desires to go after what He wants us to do? Hardly. We are offended at what God says, shocked that He would actually ask us to do anything, and ultimately don’t love Him like we like to say we do. But when we actually see God for who He is, and understand what He has done for us and how good He is, there will be an outpouring of love towards Him.

Why do I say fight to remember, fight for diligence, fight to obey, and fight to love? Because it is a fight. We are at war against our sinful desires, the world around us, and the evil forces at work in it. Left on our own, there is no way that we would choose to seek God (Psalm 14:1-3). There is no way we would win this fight. The good news is we are not on our own. The greater news is, the One who is on our side is more powerful than ourselves, the world, and the devil. God gives us His presence as a glorious and wonderful gift. All we have to do is ask. He is right there, and He has always been there. Go seek Him.

“You will seek Me and find Me, when you seek Me with all your heart” (Jeremiah 29:13, ESV). ●





As a Matter of Fact **WHO IS JESUS?**

A At times Christianity can be confusing. When you start to read the Bible there can be names of people and places you have never heard before. There will be words that have little to no meaning outside of the world of faith, and then even more confusingly, words that you may know, but in the context of Christianity they might have even greater depth of meaning. Knowing that, it can at times be overwhelming. *Word on the Street* is going to go back to the basics to tackle common questions. These are questions that are not only integral for the curious and new believer, but they are critical for the long time Christian. They are truths that you never move beyond.

Who is Jesus? No individual has ever had more written and said about them than Jesus Christ. From the time when Jesus walked this earth until today, His identity has sparked momentous debate. Some have said that He was a liar and possessed by demons. Still others called Him insane and even identified Him as a blasphemer against God. Others, though, said He was a good teacher and maybe even a prophet. He has also been known as Lord and God. People desire to create their own version of Jesus. They attempt to twist His identity into being exactly what they want to believe rather than face the consequences of reality.

With all of these opinions out there, we need to make sure our view of this carpenter from Nazareth comes from the truth of the Bible. The entire Bible is full of the truth of Jesus. Here are five essential characteristics of Jesus' identity straight from Scripture.

"NO INDIVIDUAL HAS EVER HAD MORE WRITTEN AND SAID ABOUT THEM THAN JESUS CHRIST."

- 1 JESUS IS THE SON OF GOD** "Suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, 'This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased' " (Matthew 3:17 NKJV).
- 2 JESUS IS THE EXACT IMAGE OF GOD** "He is the image of the invisible God" (Colossians 1:15 NKJV).
- 3 JESUS IS GOD** "For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily" (Colossians 2:9 NKJV).
- 4 JESUS IS THE SAVIOR** "For today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord" (Luke 2:11 NKJV).
- 5 JESUS IS LORD** "At the name of Jesus every knee should bow...and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father" (Philippians 2:10-11 NKJV).

Those facts mean next to nothing if they end at your intellectual understanding and fall short of your life application. Knowing Jesus is a savior is of no use if you don't let Him save you. Consenting that Jesus is Lord matters very little if you don't actually do what He says. Jesus is the One who should be held in highest regard. He is the Father to listen to with absolute obedience. He who we should follow wherever He leads.

In the end, people's opinions of Jesus don't change who Jesus is. Jesus is exactly who He and Scripture says that He is. You can either believe it or not. You can choose to turn to Him as your only hope for salvation and then submit to Him as your Lord, or you can deny the reality of who He is. However, don't be quick to dismiss the issue or to assume you already know the real Jesus. Your very life depends on who Jesus is to you.



Dragons, Elves, and Magic Spells

OUR CURIOUS CRAVING FOR FANTASY STORIES

W

We're taught that there is no supernatural world. What you see is what you get. There are no dragons, no elves, and especially no magic spells. Logically, this should create a world of rational people, focused on the here and now. Tell a lizard that only desert exists, and he will happily accept without much question. He's built for desert. He'll have no reason to dream of rainforests. Escaping his natural habitat would even sound foolish to him. Curiously, the same cannot be said for us humans.

In our world that supposedly lacks the supernatural, we seriously crave stories filled with enchantment. We love books with other-worldly creatures like *Alice in Wonderland* and the *Chronicles of Narnia*. Millions regularly participate in role playing games like *Dungeons & Dragons* (D&D) and *World of*

Warcraft. Epic, multi-book sagas like *Lord of the Rings* and *Harry Potter* are so well loved that they have been turned into box office-topping film series that are watched and re-watched over and over again.

If on the outside it seems we have accepted our desert of "natural", our obsessions betray us. We are not content. We spend a suspicious amount of time dreaming of other worlds. We want to escape. For many, these cravings are semi-satisfied with fantasy stories.

A curious set of desires

Fantasy is, "the power or process of creating especially unrealistic or improbable mental images in response to psychological need."¹ Fantasy stories, or fairy tales as they have been traditionally called, scratch an itch deep inside us that is challenging to put into words. They are oddly satisfying. For a time, they quench a thirst within us, whether

we're aware of it or not. Timothy Keller, theologian and author, said that fantasy stories "seem to fulfill a set of longings in the human heart that realistic fiction can never touch or satisfy."²

What is this set of longings? Keller goes on to describe them as the desires "to experience the supernatural, to escape death, to know love that we can never lose, to not age but live long enough to realize our creative dreams, to fly, to communicate with nonhuman beings, [and] to triumph over evil," just to name a few.²

Not every fantasy story satisfies every one of these desires, but many stories include a lot of them. We love the idea of a supernatural, unseen universe that affects our own like the wizarding world of *Harry Potter*. It brings an odd sense of hope that dead party members can be resurrected by spells in D&D. Part



“WE ARE NOT CONTENT. WE SPEND A SUSPICIOUS AMOUNT OF TIME DREAMING OF OTHER WORLDS.”

These realities may feel harsh, but that fact by itself isn't very special. This is just the way things are. A lizard in the desert is extremely dry and hot, but he's not upset about it. Deserts are just harsh, and no one asks questions.

The curious part is what these harsh realities do to our hearts. We hate them. They are true, but they seem wrong at a deep, unsettling level. They make us feel cursed, and we desperately desire a way for that curse to be broken.

The possibility of escape

Fortunately, professor, author and fairy tale enthusiast CS Lewis pointed out that, “Creatures are not born with desires unless satisfaction for those desires exists. A baby feels hunger: well, there is such a thing as food. A duckling wants to swim: well, there is such a thing as water.”³ We desire for our curse to be broken, so there must

be a way out. The question is, how? Many have found the answer in another Story. The Bible openly acknowledges this curse we all feel. It also uncomfortably points out that humanity is no innocent damsel in distress. This curse is our fault, and there's no chance of us breaking it on our own. We are effectively damned.

The good news is that there's a Hero. God has embarked on an epic rescue mission by becoming a human named Jesus. He broke our curse with His blood. As a result, the door on our prison cell has now been wrenched open. It's magic. This Hero offers a love that can't be lost. Good has officially triumphed over evil, and we can come back from the dead, indefinitely.

Timothy Keller explains, “The truth of Jesus means all the stories we love are not escapism at all. Jesus Christ is not one more lovely story pointing to all these underlying realities -- Jesus is the underlying reality to which all the stories point.”⁴ The old, worn out theory that we are merely physical beings in an un-enchanted world is insufficient. The desires that lead us to consume story after story point to a deeper reality. We are cursed, but there is a way out.

of the reason *Lord of the Rings* was so satisfying was seeing the good guys crush the evil Lord Sauron in the end by destroying the ring of power. No one story is entirely satisfying, but each offers its own measure of fulfillment, and because of this, we can't get enough of them.

Are we cursed?

Line these desires up with what's normal and there is an obvious contrast. In our world, good often loses to evil. There is no magic. Every loving relationship you have will eventually be lost. And in the end, death is inescapable. The things we adore most about our beloved fairy tales do not happen in the typical human experience.



1 - merriam-webster.com/dictionary/fantasy

2 - Keller, Timothy. *Hidden Christmas: the Surprising Truth behind the Birth of Christ*. Penguin Books, an Imprint of Penguin Random House, LLC, 2018.

3 - Lewis C. S. *Mere Christianity*. Simon and Schuster, 1996.

4 - Keller, Timothy. *Hidden Christmas: the Surprising Truth behind the Birth of Christ*. Penguin Books, an Imprint of Penguin Random House, LLC, 2018.



Social Distancing is Nothing New

GOD'S SOLUTION TO THE PANDEMIC OF LONELINESS

T*o love means to open ourselves to suffering. Shall we shut our doors to love then and 'be safe'? That's the only alternative, really. But locking ourselves up and never facing another person won't fix what's really going on in our souls."* — Elisabeth Elliot

No one would have thought that our communities and countries would ever be physically forced apart. Social distancing guidelines have now disrupted the lives of millions of people. Everything seems to have been put on hold, and we are left with an incredibly empty social calendar. And we feel it, don't we? Now a simple trip to the grocery store is viewed as a wonderful opportunity to interact with other humans. Suddenly, our physical distance from other people correlates to how isolated we have felt all along.

LIVING IN LONELINESS

This phenomenon is nothing new. Many people have been experiencing social distancing for quite some time. Not necessarily the type of social distancing that requires at least six feet of physical space between ourselves, but the kind that puts up different relational barriers like developing protective mask-like personas to prevent people from knowing who we really

are. By masquerading false representations of ourselves, our interactions with others become quick and shallow, existing in a closed-off emotional bubble where nothing meaningful comes in or out. This is all done in hopes that it will somehow solve our loneliness, but only proves to drive us further apart and into deeper despair. We are people in isolation. Limiting our interactions physically just made this isolation more apparent.

Our world is more technologically connected than ever before. We can hold an entire conversation via text in the palm of our hand. We can see what our former high school classmates are cooking for dinner on multiple social media feeds. We are constantly, overwhelmingly inundated with quick, shallow, so-called connections that leave no time for deep conversations that matter.

The fear of being "disconnected" ironically causes us to neglect investing in the real-life relationships we do have. When was the last time you met someone for dinner or coffee and didn't look at your phone once? We desperately want to feel connected to people without making the investment and risk of actually doing so. We at least want to appear connected. This causes us to run from event to event, posting about our supposed grand adventures for people who don't care to see, thus perpetuating

“THE TRUTH IS WE DESIRE TO BE GENUINELY UNDERSTOOD AND LOVED BUT CRINGE AT THE THOUGHT OF EXPOSING WHO WE TRULY ARE. GOD DID NOT DESIGN US TO LIVE IN SUCH ISOLATION. HE OFFERS US AN ENTIRELY DIFFERENT WAY OF LIVING.”

the empty relationship and loneliness cycle. Now, more than ever, we understand that these online “communities” are no substitute for real, live, in-person interactions. But we still try to distract ourselves with them and with a multitude of other short-lived entertainment options. The truth is that we desire to be genuinely understood and loved but cringe at the thought of exposing who we truly are. God did not design us to live in such isolation. He offers us an entirely different way of living.

CREATED FOR CAMARADERIE

Imagine a group of people who are committed to each other through the good and the bad. They share what they have so that no one in the group lacks anything. They take time to discuss important issues and truly care about each other. They have each other over for dinner where they laugh together over joyous moments and cry together over shared struggles. This group doesn't get along so well because they're all so similar. In fact, they are as diverse as you can imagine. But it is what they have in common that makes the difference.

This is what we all search for. We seek out the ideal ragtag group of friends who will provide this kind of community. These types of groups dominate our most beloved television shows: *The Office*, *Friends*, *Cheers*, *Parks and Rec*, the list goes on. Yet, when it comes to our own lives, there is still a part of us that fights against the thought of sharing everything and being a part of such a committed group of people. Though we desire this, we also feel the need to self-preserve and put up barriers which make true friendship with others impossible. However, God

created us to experience deep connections with others and to live as part of a perfect community.

COMFORT IN CHAOS

So what are we to do? Is there any hope of relationships that don't leave us lonely? Yes. We just need to know where to look. Throughout the Bible, God communicates that He desires to be in relationship with us, with you, individually. This is one of the reasons we were created. He wants us to turn to Him and get to know Him. Our relationship with Him should be as intimate as a dad and his child as the Bible describes in 1 John 3:1, “See how very much our Father loves us, for he calls us his children” (NLT).

Jesus came from perfection in heaven and entered into our sick, dying, messy world. And He did so to live a life that perfectly served and loved those around Him. He died on our behalf so that we could belong to God's family and never be alone again. How? He was resurrected from the dead and was made alive forever and ever. Believing in Him, and the eternal life He promises, means this life is temporary because real life with Him begins now and lasts forever.

“For you are all children of God through faith in Christ Jesus” (Galatians 3:26, NLT). God is the only One who can fully satisfy our desire to be fully known and loved, and He promises He will never leave us. This is the deepest and most meaningful relationship we can ever experience. It is out of this relationship that all other relationships can start to make sense.

RADICAL RELATIONSHIPS

The good news of this kind of life-giving relationship doesn't end there. After Jesus defeated death, He established His Church. As His representatives on earth, the Church is to show others how to have a relationship with God as well. These believers do this by allowing God to change every aspect of their lives, especially how they interact with other people. They are to be people marked by love for God, for each other, for their neighbors, and for their enemies. This group of people is to love each other in such a radical way that the whole world will know they are followers of Jesus. This mission is summed up in the Book of John, “So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples” (John 13:34-35, NLT).


Learning to love people in this way does not come quickly or easily. Naturally, we enter into relationships to gain something for ourselves. We feel that if we don't look out for our well-being we will not have our needs met. That makes our relationships depend on our feelings and leads to friendships that are unstable, insecure, temporary, and shallow, which is the perfect recipe for loneliness.

God, however, calls us to be part of a local group of believers who seek the good of others, regardless of personal feelings and gain. When all members do that for each other, we don't have to fear our needs not being met. We'll have a whole church body looking out for our good instead of just fending for themselves.

This means we are free to lay aside the masks we wear to keep ourselves from being fully known. The Christian community is a place where we are all keenly aware of the fact that we are all screw-ups, so we don't need to hide our failures from each other and pretend like we are perfect. We are free to commit and invest in a select group of people that we will share our lives with. God wants His followers to do things for each other that require that we invest time and effort into relationships. This is done in all the day-to-day mess of real life, not just the quick, shallow, perfect-looking stuff we can easily post online. We don't have to live in fear that coming into close contact with these people will leave us plagued by more loneliness. These people aren't perfect, so they will disappoint from time to time, but being committed to each other means that when you disappoint them they won't give up on you either.

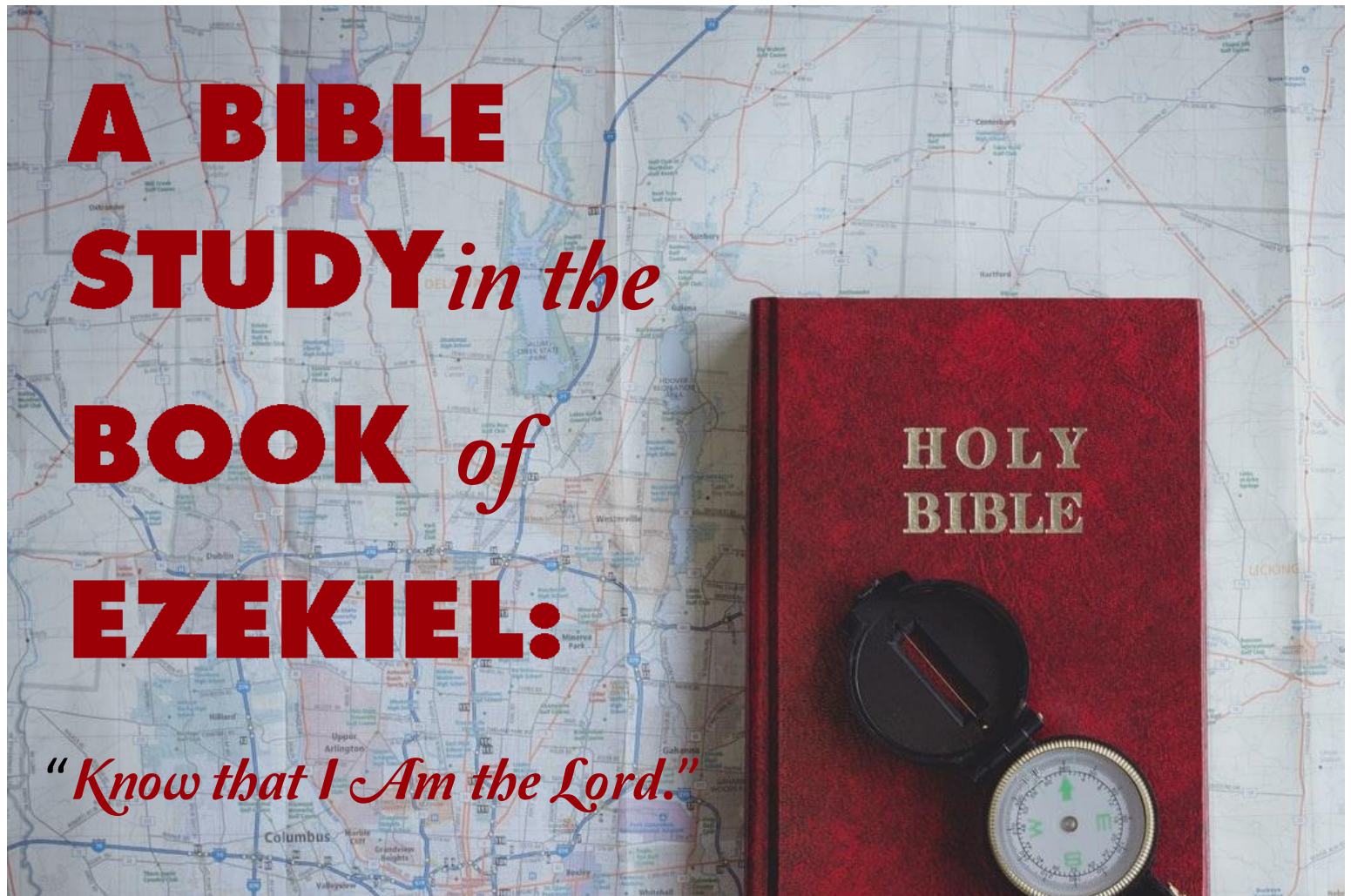
“A COMMUNITY IS ONLY AS STRONG AS WHAT IT IS BASED UPON. THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY IS MEANT TO BE OF THE HIGHEST CALIBER BECAUSE OF WHO IT IS BASED UPON.”

A community is only as strong as what it is based upon. The Christian community is meant to be of the highest caliber because of Who it is based upon. A group of people securely loved and satisfied in God has the freedom to love each other regardless of surrounding circumstances and fickle feelings.

The world will tell you that practicing social distancing will save your life. The people of God, His Church, invite you to step in close and experience real, life-giving relationships. Don't wait until this pandemic is all over to find a community. If you're honest with yourself, you probably need it now more than ever. If you already belong to a church, see what they have going on for their members at this time and seek to connect with people in any (safe) way you can. If you don't have a church yet, look into some around your community, or around your university's community since you'll be going back there eventually. Maybe you've got a friend who has been pestering you about coming to church with them. Now you know they've been pestering you because the church is where the craving for real, lasting relationships can be satisfied. Ask them how they are connecting with their church family at this time. 

**Note: This is not a call to ignore current health and safety measures being enforced by the government for the fight against the recent pandemic. This is a call to seek God and invest in His people.*





My grandpa, when I was a child, would often warn me, “You wouldn’t understand now, but when you grow up you will know.”

It is a common phrase that parents from their own experience inform their children. The young are scornful in reply, but the elderly advice comes from years of experience. When I think of their advice now after twelve to fifteen years, it makes much more sense. Similarly, God is not merely giving the Israelites parental advice but is revealing himself to them through the prophecies in Ezekiel. He wants them to know that he is the Lord.

The Book of Ezekiel is divided into three major sections: chapters 1–24, 25–32 and 33–48. The first section is a message of judgement against Israel, second is against the nations, and third is a

message of consolation for Israel. In every section, “know that I am the Lord” is a recurring theme. We find that Ezekiel is told that either the prophet or Israel or the nations “will know that I am the Lord” at least 67 times in prophecy.

In the first section of the book, there are several occasions where God reveals himself (6: 7, 9, 10, 13, 14; 7: 4, 27; 11: 10, 12; 12: 15, 16; 13: 9, 14, 21, 23; 14: 8; 15: 7; 16: 62; 17: 24; 20: 12, 20, 26, 38, 42, 44; 22: 16; 23: 49; 24: 24, 27). In Ezekiel 5: 13, 17, God reveals himself in judgement against Jerusalem. They were captured by the Babylonians. The Sovereign Lord is anguished by the wickedness of Jerusalem. He set them in the midst of the nations. And instead of setting the example of God’s standards, Israel acted more sinfully than the other nations. Their sin was so great that parents practiced cannibalism (5: 10).



Therefore, YHWH in his tremendous anger inflicted punishment on them. The Lord's anger flames and Ezekiel prophesies that a third of them will die of plague, another by the sword outside the city walls, and the rest will be chased by the sword. Then, the Lord finally says, "Then my anger will finally cease... And when I have spent my wrath on them, they will know that I the Lord have spoken in my zeal." (Eze. 5:13) Our God is holy; he will not tolerate sin and will even cause judgement on his own children if they don't come to him in repentance.

Again, God reveals his judgement but this time it is on Israel's seven neighbours: Ammon, Moab, Edom, Philistia, Tyre, Sidon, and Egypt. In all of these prophesies, God reveals himself to the nations too (25: 5, 7; 26: 6; 28: 22, 23, 24, 26; 29: 6, 9, 16, 21; 30: 8, 19, 25, 26; 32: 15,29). He abhors the evil nations for their immoral ways towards God's chosen people, the Israelites. First, God chose to punish his own people for their wicked ways, and then he judges the surrounding nations. In a way, it is God's act of salvation for Israel in order that they change from their wicked ways, and it is also a correction for the surrounding nations to keep away from mockery. They have no reason to jab at the Israelites for they themselves have also received infliction from the Sovereign one. The regular pattern followed is, "Because (they sinned)... therefore (they are punished)... then they will know that I am the Lord."

In the final section of Ezekiel's prophesies, God reveals his message of grace to his people. Ezekiel 34:27, 30 will be studied here but the other occasions of his self-revelation are in 35:4, 9,15; 36:11,23,38; 37:13,14, 23; 38:23; 39:6,7,22,28. After an oppressive time under the Babylonian empire, God will surely not abandon his people but will rescue them just as he punished them; he will save the remnant and provide the good Shepherd to

them (34:23,24). In chapter 34, God speaks against the shepherds of Israel because they have led Israel astray. The shepherds lived in luxury but did not raise their eyes at their flock. The people lived in physical and spiritual poverty. He says, "I will remove them from tending the flock so that the shepherds can no longer feed themselves" (34:10). The Lord promises to be their shepherd and he will treat them with justice. The Messianic promise of Jesus is made (34:23) who will be their sole shepherd (John 10). He establishes the covenant of peace with his people (Eze. 34:25). Then, the Sovereign Lord declares, "Then they will know that I, the Lord their God, am with them and that they, the Israelites, are my people" (34:30).

Three passages in Ezekiel show God's self-revelation to Israel, the seven nations and his grace to his people. The book of Ezekiel is a prophetic book in the sense of asking the people to turn to God in total surrender and to leave aside their wicked ways. Even as I think of the possible reaction of the Israelites, I see that only if they realize that YHWH is their God and there is none besides him, the maker of the universe, the one who chose them to be his own, the one who redeemed them from slavery is appealing to them to repent of their sins, only then will they be transformed in their minds.

Jesus tells the Pharisees, "You do not know me or my Father,...if you knew me, you would know my Father also" (John 8:19). The knowledge of God will transform people from their old selves (2 Cor. 5:17). They will no longer live in the filth of their sin, in the lethargy of mood swings, or in the dullness of their addictions (Rom. 6). Knowledge of Christ changes the person inwardly where the emotions and thoughts are tuned to the Spirit of God (Rom. 8:5). Our prayers will be according to the will of God (Rom. 8:27). Christ, though he was human, was not led astray by the fleshly desires when he was



tempted. He knew the will of God and was committed to his Father (Mark 14:36).

There was a young girl, Pandita Ramabai, who became a great woman; the first woman Sanskrit scholar in India in the early 1900s. In her days, she travelled with her father to teach from the Hindu Scriptures. But when God revealed himself to her during her higher studies in England, her worldview changed. After she returned to India, the transforming knowledge of Christ enabled her to establish a home for the widows and orphans. Today, we know the establishment as Mukti Mission. They are people who have the knowledge of God, turn from their old ways and set out in action to serve others. Pandita Ramabai wrote, "People must not only hear about the kingdom of GOD, but must see it in actual operation, on a small scale perhaps and in imperfect form, but a real demonstration nevertheless." Jesus' disciples are called to act on their saving knowledge of Christ (Matt. 28:18-20).



PARTING THOUGHTS

Three significant things to learn from this study is to keep away from sin and be exposed to the knowledge of God. Only he can transform our depraved lives. Second, is a challenge to many of us: what are we doing with the knowledge given to us? God has revealed himself to us. We are saved by faith in Jesus Christ. We have the greatest news. But how long will we keep this knowledge to ourselves? Finally, those who are empowered by the transforming knowledge of Christ and are actively spreading the good news, stay encouraged and plod on.



INDIA
YOUTH FOR CHRIST
VIZAG

CONNECT

“REDEEM THE TIME”

Join with other believers online!

Every Tuesday—18:45 Valley Bible Study

Every Friday—18:00 Girls Bible Study

Every Saturday—18:30 Study on Minor Prophets

ALL THE MEETINGS ARE ON THE ZOOM APP

ZOOM ID: 286 336 4670

PASSWORD: YFC