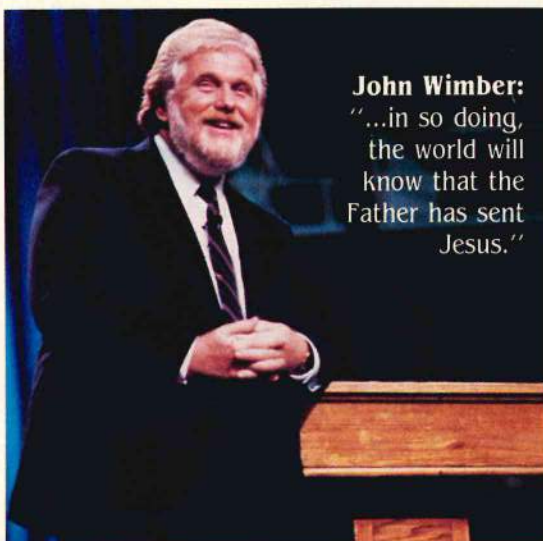


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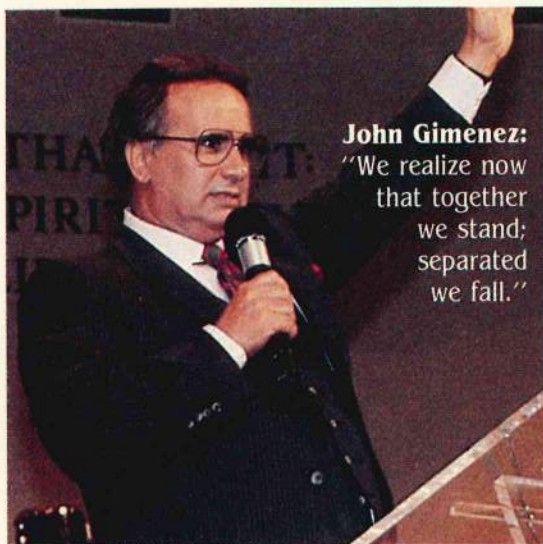
How unity of Church leaders affects the believer



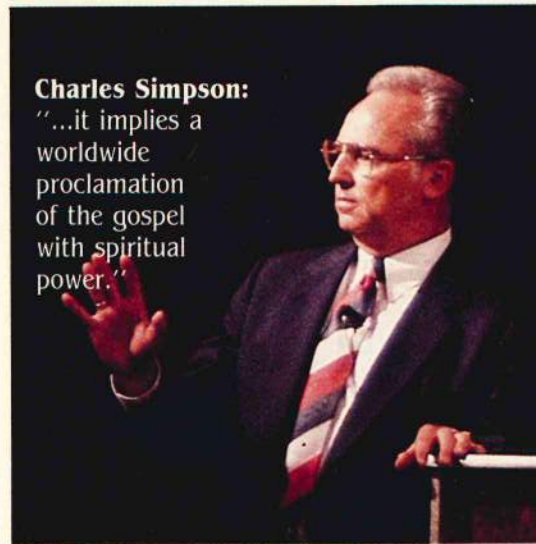
John Wimber:
"...in so doing,
the world will
know that the
Father has sent
Jesus."



Ken Copeland:
"There is a place of
revival and
revelation in God
that none of
us can get to
until we get
together."



John Gimenez:
"We realize now
that together
we stand;
separated
we fall."



Charles Simpson:
"...it implies a
worldwide
proclamation
of the gospel
with spiritual
power."

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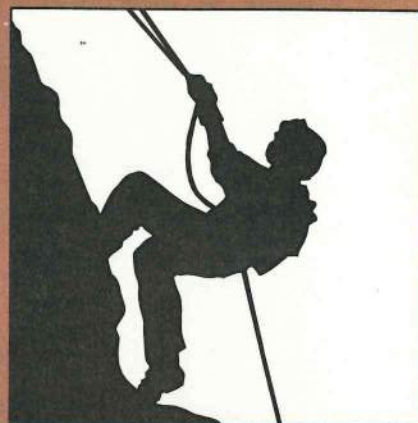
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8. Dick Iverson tells how Christians can go up the mountain of the Lord together.



12. In "Don't Miss the Boat!" Bob Mumford shares on being in the move of God.



28. Charles Swindoll offers advice to the lonely, telling why two are better than one.

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How the Holy Spirit brings us into new places

"Nudges" and "Suddenlies"

by Bruce Longstreth

He will disclose to you what is to come" (Jn. 16:13 NAS).

There is an important truth contained in the scripture above; it is one we should consider at the beginning of each new year. In essence, what it says is, "Divine nudges always precede suddenlies." Or stated another way, it says that we can be fairly certain the changes in direction, the new opportunities, and the fresh challenges of the coming year will not overtake us suddenly, or unannounced, but will be indicated by the nudges of the Holy Spirit—the gentle touches of the Comforter's elbow as He walks alongside, calling our attention to what lies ahead.

Lest you think this is the mere figment or fragment or fragmented figment of an overworked editor's imagination, look closely for a moment at the following examples found in the New Testament.

"And *suddenly* there appeared with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God" (Lk. 2:13 NAS, *italics mine*). Here's a great one: "And *suddenly* there came from heaven a noise like a violent, rushing wind" (Acts 2:2 NAS, *italics mine*). Then there's poor Saul of Tarsus, who ran headlong into a blinding suddenly: "A very bright light *suddenly* flashed from heaven all around me" (Acts 22:6 NAS, *italics mine*). And for those who ignore the signs of the times, there is this one: "While they are saying, 'Peace and safety!' then destruction will come upon them *suddenly*" (1 Th. 5:3 NAS).

A suddenly is the accumulation of nudges that fill up and finally overflow their container, spilling into new times and seasons. The angels' sudden appearance in Luke chapter 2 was "in the fullness of time." Centuries of prophetic nudges accumulated until one night they poured out on a Judean hillside, scattering excited shepherds into a hasty search for the Messiah's birthplace.

Pentecost took place because its time "had fully come." But hints of the Comforter's coming are evident even from the beginning when He brooded over the unformed cosmos, awaiting the Father's creative "Let there be light." Jesus told His disciples on several occasions that when this same Holy Spirit came, He would not only empower them but also be a constant indicator of things to come. His elbow would forever be a holy hint to keep them informed of the times and seasons.

For all of us there will be "nudges" and "suddenlies" this coming year. *New Wine* would like to be a nudge confirming what the Lord is saying to you, and we hope that those nudges will accumulate until they suddenly emerge into a new day and a new opportunity to extend the kingdom of God.

This month's nudges include interviews with four key Church leaders. They see beginnings of an unprecedented move toward unity in which they will draw on each other's gifts. Dick Iverson then explains how the different movements that have taken place in the Church over the years can work

together, bringing us into a new, exciting place. And Bob Mumford tells us how to recognize when the Holy Spirit is beginning a new direction, and how to know when we have missed a turn somewhere.

In an open letter, Charles Simpson shares some of the nudges we at *New Wine* have felt recently. "Grow or die" may be more than a nudge, but we intend to grow into the communications team that the Lord wants us to be during this season. And finally, Charles Swindoll gives a gentle nudge about the importance of the close ties we need to withstand present pressures.

In Acts chapter 26, Saul of Tarsus heard a voice from heaven saying it was hard for him to kick against the "nudges." And he who kicked so hard against them warned the saints in 1 Thessalonians 5:1-5 that the day of the Lord would overtake them unless they walked in obedience to the nudges of the Holy Spirit. If we pay attention, we will never be suddenly overtaken. May God help us to respond quickly to the gentle nudges of the Holy Spirit, who faithfully leads us to fresh opportunities to extend the kingdom of God in our generation. □



Bruce Longstreth is editor of *New Wine* and Fathergram.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Prayer Works

I'm writing in response to your articles by Larry Lea ("The Hour of Power," October and November) concerning prayer. When I lived in New Orleans, my pastor attended a seminar on prayer at Lea's church in Texas. Our pastor challenged our church to meet at 6:00 a.m. Monday through Saturday for one hour of prayer based on Lea's outline. Between 75 and 150 people met every morning to seek the Lord.

As a direct result of this prayer time, I saw literally dozens saved each week at our church. Strongholds were torn down and the principalities over New Orleans were shaken to their foundations—all because of tireless prayer!

Eddie DiVincenzo
Mobile, AL

Finding Oil of Gladness

The October issue has been very special to me, especially the article by Larry Lea, "The Hour of Power." I am employed as a geophysicist in an oil company, and my primary responsibility is to recommend places to drill oil wells. The past month has been very frustrating because I could not predict where a new oil field would be.

Two weeks ago I threw up my hands in frustration and said "Lord,

if You don't help me, I'm finished!" I planned to ask for a transfer to a new area.

One week ago I read Larry Lea's article and was especially interested in the way he addressed the Father in the different Hebrew names for Jehovah. When I tried it, there was something that excited my spirit—so much so that I forgot about my dilemma at work. It really hit home when he said God was "Jehovah-jireh, God's provision shall be seen." Confessing Jesus as my provider and knowing He would not let me fail was the key!

This afternoon at the office I received a computer plot showing that a revelation God had given me this week was indeed the solution to my problem. Our company has spent millions of dollars in the area where I work and this key from the Holy Spirit will enable us to find many more oil wells that will glorify the God of heaven and earth.

John Brand
Denver, CO

A Joyful Issue

How I needed the message in Bob Mumford's article "Don't Let Your Joy Get Away!" In fact, the entire November issue was truly a joy.

Adele Reynolds
Geneva, FL

Joy in the Impossible

I want to thank you once again for another year of *New Wine*, and also for praying for us. I am still not able to work but would like to keep getting *New Wine*. We just went through a murder and suicide in our family, and then we received the November issue, "Joy." It really helped me. Again, thank you and God bless you for sending *New Wine*.

Name withheld

The Critical Person

I very much enjoyed Don Basham's article "Crack Down on Criticism!" (November). It reminded me of what a small person it takes to be a critical person, and also of a quote I have taped to my refrigerator door: "Nothing is easier than fault-finding; it takes no talent, no self-respect, no brains, no character to set up the grumbling business."

Thank you for caring enough to be honest with all of God's people.

Jolene Backlin
Mason City, IA

Teaching the Teachers

During our morning devotional time in our Christian school, I shared some of the valuable insights I had gained from reading the October issue on guidance. The school principal and thirteen other teachers were so blessed that they expressed a desire to receive a copy of this issue. It was very timely for all of us.

Karen Finch
Greenwood, IN

Unraveling a Mystery

Although there was no mention of it in the article, the photograph accompanying "Shopping Around for Guidance" (October) included, on the rack of occult books, a book of Agatha Christie stories. This bothered me, as I have never considered mystery stories such as hers improper reading for a Christian. She certainly does not present a Christian point of view, although

I would say it is a moral point of view. I enjoy reading her books purely for recreation. Would you consider these kinds of books improper reading for a Christian? If you could comment on this, it would be helpful to me, and I am sure, many others.

John Bacinski
Grand Rapids, MI

Editor's note: The photograph was intended to communicate the variety and availability of books on guidance. Books with an occult emphasis are common everywhere, just as Agatha Christie books are. We did not mean to imply that her books are evil, however, and apologize for the confusion.

Late But Right on Time

Like many of your correspondents, I find that *New Wine* always has a timely word for us. It is even more remarkable because here in the Seychelles Islands in the Indian Ocean, many issues arrive so late—the latest was two years old!

Last Christmas, for example, the Lord was speaking to us about praying for this country. Along came a late *New Wine* with an article by Derek Prince on the same subject, specifically about his experiences in Kenya. Praise the Lord because many of our people have lived in Kenya and the article gave a practical, meaningful word to them. I really stand in awe of the way God meets our needs this way.

Dorothy James
Seychelles

Thanks From Ghana

I am very grateful for your love and concern for the readers of *New Wine*, for the importance you attach to our requests, and because you keep renewing our subscription.

I always look forward to *New Wine* with so much expectation. It is ranked next to my Bible. I try as much as possible to pass it on for others to read, and then to keep each issue to teach others also.

Due to our foreign currency ex-

change problem in Ghana, I have contributed nothing, yet I receive every month's issue. Thanks for your faithfulness and commitment to help others. My wife, Nora, and I never cease praying for *New Wine* and the ministry committed into your hands. Pray for us as well.

Julius Danguah
Accra, Ghana

The Power of Worship

What relief when "Let Praise Arise," my latest Hosanna! Music tape, came through the speakers of my recorder. For several months I've been struggling with a sin. I was getting desperate and knew I needed to worship and be ministered to by the Spirit through the Word and worship.

The first day I received the tape, I played it through seven times in a row. On the second day, a light of freedom broke through. I had a thirst for righteousness and a cleansing came into my being.

Before this I was too ashamed to ask for prayer, but now I wanted only to be totally clean and free. That Sunday I went forward for laying on of hands. I witnessed in my spirit a breaking of the bondage that had come over me. I am restored, and fellowship with Him is so sweet and satisfying once again.

Name withheld

"Dear New Wine" is your platform to express your point of view about a *New Wine* article, to pose a question, or to disagree with a point we've made.

If you'd like to respond to a specific article, to question a writer, or to share how God spoke to you or challenged you, this is your opportunity to do it. Send your letters to "Dear New Wine," P.O. Box Z, Mobile, Alabama 36616.

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New Wine Magazine seeks to promote the unity and maturity of the Church and individual Christians by presenting sound biblical teachings and testimonies from a variety of Christian authors.

New Wine will carefully consider all unsolicited manuscripts, although we cannot return them unless accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope. (Please note we do not publish poetry.)

TIPS FOR FATHERS

What a dad would do if he could start over

Gaining Insight From Hindsight

by John Stanko

If I only knew then what I know now...."

That's the premise of a book I read recently, *If I Were Starting My Family Again*. The author, John M. Drescher, writes about how he would raise his children if he had known when they were born what he knows today. It caused me to stop and think about my own children, John, eight, and Deborah, five. Even though they are still relatively young, I wondered what I would do differently if I had the opportunity to start over.

1. *I would spend more time with their mother prior to their birth.* When children come on the scene, schedules change drastically. At times my wife, Kathy, and I have to really work to be together alone. Looking back, I think I would have traveled more with Kathy, would not have allowed her to work, and would have paid more attention to her.

2. *I would prepare for fatherhood more thoroughly.* I could have learned some important insights prior to having my own children. I see now that I should have spent time with other children to learn how they think and what they enjoy, and talked to their fathers to learn from their successes and failures.

3. *I would work harder at preserving the past.* I realize now what everyone has told me all along—children grow up quickly. I put off preserving special moments, thinking there was still time. If I were starting over, I would take more

pictures and make more recordings of their voices. I would invest in a video camera, and keep closer watch over their baby books to record their first steps, first words, first ballet recital, and first Little League hit.

4. *I would be easier on my first born and tougher on my second born.* Looking back, some of my expectations for my son were not realistic, while I probably relaxed too much in disciplining my daughter. My plan for 1986 is to have more fun with my son, putting less pressure on him to be a good "preacher's kid." My plan for Deborah is to instill in her that she cannot charm her way through life. But in both cases, I want to enjoy them for who they are, both different but equal in God's sight.

5. *I would read to them more.* Children love to be read to. They love to hear stories, and they enjoy hearing their parents' voices. I would read the Bible to them more, explaining the meaning in greater detail. I would make up stories and encourage them to do the same to challenge their creativity.

6. *I would pray more.* Starting over, I would dramatically increase my prayer time for my children. I would pray for the direction of their lives, including their spouses and careers. I would pray diligently for the kingdom of God to be established in their hearts, and for wisdom and patience so that I could better cooperate with God's plan for them. I would also fast more on their behalf.

7. *I would be more consistent in discipline.* I would definitely discipline more and rebuke less. Discipline can be inconvenient. If I'm in public, busy, or eating, and my children disobey, I issue a stern warning only to see them repeat the same offense shortly thereafter. The Lord has impressed me with an unrecorded proverb: "If you have to spank them a little harder than usual, they won't die."

Although I can see some areas that need improvement as I examine my parenting, I have no deep regrets. The maxim goes that hindsight is better than foresight, and that's true. But with God's help, it's never too late to start over. □



his wife, Kathy, and their two children.

John Stanko is a pastor and church administrator at Gulf Coast Covenant Church, Mobile, Alabama. He received his bachelor's and master's degrees in economics from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh. He resides in Mobile with

"Tips for Fathers" is provided by *Fathergram*, a monthly newsletter that offers insights, tips, and testimonials from fathers who care about their families. To subscribe, send \$9.95 (special price) to *Fathergram*, P.O. Box Z, Mobile, AL 36616.

A woman learns to walk in spiritual power

My Lice Story

by Pam Mann

As my trio of children involved themselves in their nightly ritual of brushing their teeth, I swooped around them, collecting dirty clothes and hanging up wet towels. It was a typical night on our mission station in Cameroon, West Africa.

Suddenly, something caught my eye. I looked closer and discovered a host of little creatures meandering all over my daughter's head. A quick check of her brothers' scalps confirmed my fear that they too were victims of the loathsome vermin. I was appalled! We religiously filter our drinking water, boil our dishwater, sanitize our lettuce, and scrub our children so that this sort of thing won't happen.

"You've got to pick them out, Mom," the oldest explained. "That's what our friends do." But my husband, Dave, and I decided a more aggressive treatment was in order. First, we identified our enemy: lice. I had never met a louse before, but just thinking that my children's heads were infested made my stomach turn and scalp itch.

Although it was past bedtime, we determined to free ourselves of this blight. Dave scrubbed each head with medicated shampoo while I stripped all the beds of linens and favorite blankets. But by the time I remade the beds, Dave was moaning in defeat. The lice were still there, only cleaner than before.

I then tried wrapping each child's head in a steamy, vinegar-doused towel and covering each with a plastic sack. But when the mummified heads were uncovered, we still found lice—a la vinaigrette sauce.

Tired and desperate, we opted

for the most drastic solution known: kerosene. We poured some from a lantern onto each child's head, carefully avoiding their faces. A good shampooing and three rinses got rid of the foul-smelling concoction. "They've got to be dead," Dave assured me. Indeed nothing moved among the little black specks, but they stuck tenaciously to their hair. I tried combing them out but they would not leave the head unless the hair went too.

"We've made some progress," Dave finally said. "We'll do better tomorrow."

I did not sleep well that night. I could feel the little creatures crawling in my scalp, even though Dave and I had checked each other for lice and found none. Every time I scratched, it seemed my irritated and frustrated thoughts increased. *Why did I have to contend with lice on top of all the other demands of missionary life?* I wondered. Besides, I had been praying for a powerful renewal of the local church and our missionaries. I truly wanted the lame to walk and the blind to see. I certainly didn't have time for lice! Yet I knew the lice would likely return, and I would have to deal with them once again.

In the days that followed, repeated shampoos did bring an end to the lice, but for some reason, my irritation and grumbling remained.

Finally, one morning I decided that the chafing had to stop. A fellow missionary had given me some antilice soap, so green bar in hand, I stepped into the shower to cleanse myself from any possibility of lice, but more importantly, to wash away my discontentment. I recalled words from Martin Luther's catechism:



...the old Adam in us, together with all sins and evil lusts, should be drowned by daily sorrow and repentance and be put to death, and that the new man should come forth daily and rise up, cleansed and righteous, to live forever in God's presence.

The suds, dirt, and lice went down the drain, and with them my discontented chafing, irritation, and frustration. As the water refreshed, the Spirit empowered. Therein the Lord revealed the lesson He sought to teach me through the invasion of the lice. Although I'd prefer a struggle free, and they-lived-happily-ever-after Christian life, I contend daily with both lice and their parallels in the spiritual realm, and I must be daily cleansed from both. But as I am washed I can be renewed and walk in the spiritual power I have so longed for. □

Pam Mann is a New Wine reader who lives in Poli, Cameroon, Africa.

The Year of Equ



"I believe I have something to say about the new covenant as a basis for relationship, how leaders function together, how authority operates, and how the ministry of the Holy Spirit functions."

—Charles Simpson, chairman of the Integrity Communications Board of Directors

N*ew Wine*: This is the first time that Ken Copeland, John Gimenez, and John Wimber have appeared with you in *New Wine Magazine*. Can you share something about how you view these men?

Charles Simpson: My early experiences in the charismatic movement were with men who are part of what has often been called the faith movement. In fact, Ken Copeland and I ministered together back in 1967. I've always believed that those men had something the Church needed to hear, and I am moved by the openness I see among many of them. Ken, for example, has taken some daring and courageous steps to identify with us and other leaders. He has won my admiration for that.

John Gimenez, whom I first met in 1965, is a man who has sought unity in the body of Christ for years. I don't know of anyone who has carried that burden more or who has had a more gracious spirit toward the whole Church than he has. God is going to bless and prosper him because of that.

John Wimber is one of the most significant figures in the Church right now. Although he probably never intended to start a movement, almost overnight he has blossomed into a phenomenon. Of course, he has been laboring faithfully for years. I believe his ministry will eventually impact the entire body of Christ, and he will find his place among other Christian leaders.

John will face the same kind of criticism that other leaders face. In fact, some critics have already emerged. But he will find men of God who have weathered their storms rising to defend and stand with him. All Christian leaders need to pray for and uphold one another.

As chairman of the Integrity Communications Board of Directors, I commend each of these men to

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"Years ago the Lord said to me, 'I am going to teach you the laws of prosperity and the spiritual laws that govern abundance in My kingdom....Then, I am going to hold you responsible for them.'"

—Kenneth Copeland, evangelist

N*ew Wine*: Unity movements have come and gone, but why does the current one that you're involved with seem different?

Kenneth Copeland: More than anything else, I think it's simply the right time. Ephesians chapter 1 talks about the fullness of time, and I believe it's time for the body of Christ to come together and do what God planned for it to do.

I also think that if this movement would have come about any sooner, it would have been premature. At the Network of Christian Ministries meeting last July, a gathering of Christian leaders from various backgrounds [see "A Network for Unity," December *New Wine*], someone noted that God could have herded all the animals into the ark fifty years before the flood came, but He didn't do that. God put it in the hearts of those animals at the right time to go where Noah was, and then the flood came. I believe that God has dropped in the hearts of His people the idea that it's time to get together.

NW: What would you say keeps Christian leaders apart?

KC: One problem has been communication. The differences between us have not necessarily been because we have believed different things, but because many times we have used different words. But we have used the only vocabulary we have had. There are phrases I wish I could get back, or at least explain. But they were all I had at the time, and they sounded good then. The Word says, "We know in part" (1 Cor. 13:9). But we have to get our parts together. When we do, we'll be able to see the whole picture, and it will be a picture of Jesus in the fullness of His stature.

Also, some problems have been caused not by the

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ipping the Saints



"You'll drink from [my] fountain of joy...the joy of loving God, the joy of loving your wife, the joy of loving your children, and the joy of living with the knowledge of Jesus Christ as Lord."

—John Gimenez, pastor of Rock Church, Virginia Beach, Virginia

New Wine: John, tell us about your burden for unity in the body of Christ.

John Gimenez: Ever since I was saved in 1963, I have been aware of the great division between brethren who basically say the same things but with a different emphasis on different parts of the Scripture. Because of this, they drift away from each other, and their separation eventually leads to warfare.

In some respects, the world has a lot more wisdom than the Church. The world has ambassadors, embassies, and the like to try to keep harmony and avoid war, although this system fails once in a while. But the Church has no such people or places, and war breaks out all the time. When the members have to choose sides, the entire body of Christ suffers.

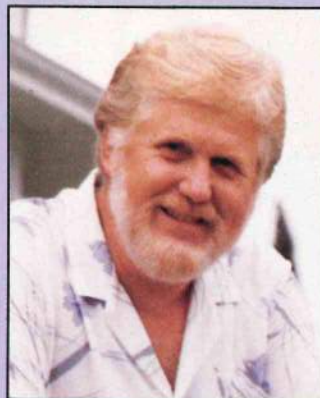
There is great pain in my heart whenever I see good, honest men of God—men who really love Him—alienated and separated from the rest of the Body because of some emphasis of Scripture in their ministries. I believe this is because God has put a burden for unity on my heart. It has always been a strong emphasis in my life and ministry.

NW: Since your conversion in 1963, then, has the emphasis in your ministry been on bringing together the body of Christ?

JG: Although I haven't always realized it, I would have to say that it has been. As soon as I went on the road in ministry, I began to realize those differences and to speak against them, often without wisdom. Whenever I saw division, I just blasted away at it.

Now, through the recent formation of the Network of Christian Ministries, I see the beginning of a network that reaches across every legitimate emphasis there is. It's like Apollos and Paul and Cephas in

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"I'm a have-experience-will-travel person—someone who is having a marvelous renewal with the Lord and is willing to share it....God is using me to excite a new level of faith and response in believers."

—John Wimber, founder of Vineyard Christian Fellowships

New Wine: What do you feel is your role in the body of Christ?

John Wimber: I'm sort of a have-experience-will-travel person—someone who is having a marvelous renewal with the Lord and is willing to share it. I think I'm making a contribution to the renewal in the Church and that God is using me to excite a new level of faith and response in believers.

I don't, however, see myself as a national or international leader. That's not false modesty; I just don't see myself cast in that kind of role. I'm pleased when God opens a door for me to go somewhere and share with someone, but my preference is to be at home. I think there are a number of well-equipped people to give national and international leadership, and I don't see myself as one of them.

NW: In your role in the Body, do you see your emphasis as being on signs and wonders?

JW: That's what people garner from visiting us, but the emphasis for me isn't on signs and wonders. Our highest ambition is equipping the saints to do the works of Jesus. In that sense we have a ministry to the larger Body, in so far as it has neglected getting equipped. My goal isn't to become the next Oral Roberts or Kathryn Kuhlman, but by equipping and training people, I'd like to produce thousands of Orals and Kathryns.

NW: As you encourage people to step forth in faith and believe God to work a miracle through them, what do you have to war against most?

JW: The biggest obstacle many Christians face is that they do not fully, deep-down inside believe the

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Something exciting is happening on

THE MOUNTAIN OF THE LORD

by Dick Iverson



Recently, I traveled to a large conference where Christian leaders planned to meet, many for the first time, to talk about unity. On the plane I had the privilege of talking to Senator Mark Hatfield of Oregon, an evangelical Christian. Although we have our differences, we have been friends ever since the 1980 Washington for Jesus rally. He asked me to tell him about the conference.

"I don't know if you're aware of it, Senator," I said, "but independent Charismatics are one of the largest unrepresented groups of people in our nation. We have some of the country's largest churches and ministries, and believe it is time to come together to learn from each other and to become one voice."

He asked me to let him know more about it when I returned home. "I have a feeling," I told him, "that you're going to hear a lot about it in the years to come."

We're all going to hear about Christians' coming together because it is what the Holy Spirit is stirring in saints everywhere. When leaders and followers alike make peace with each other and work toward unity, we will see something that's more exciting than anything any of us have ever experienced. It's what Isaiah prophesied long ago:

It shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it. And many people shall go and say, "Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us his ways, and we will walk in his paths": for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem (Is. 2:2-3).

I used to disregard scriptures like that, saying, "It has nothing to do with today," and then tossing them into my millennium file.

But in the last ten years, I've been rereading the scriptures in that file and trying to walk in the truths they hold.

I believe that what Isaiah talks about is going to happen in our day. I am so persuaded of it that I'm gearing my entire life toward it. As the people of God come together, we are going to affect this nation and the whole world before Jesus comes. Nations are going to flow to the house of God.

Going Down the Valley

That picture from Isaiah, however, is quite a contrast to the way many people are going, people who remind me of a family that my wife, Edie, and I met in Ireland many years ago when we were traveling there as evangelists. After a meeting in a remote rural town, a farmer asked us to his home for supper. After we ate, he showed us an old Victrola with a crank, and asked if we'd like to hear his favorite record.

Slowly the Victrola spun out the words: "We are going down the valley, going down the valley, going down the valley...one...by...one..." The people were kind and beautiful, but their favorite song said a lot about them and their vision. They hadn't been anywhere, and they hadn't thought about going anywhere either. Six generations of their family had been raised in that remote little area, and they were living to die there.

Sad to say, a lot of people have the kind of vision that doesn't go anywhere except "down the valley one by one." Yet the scripture in Isaiah promises that many shall go to the top of the mountain. That doesn't mean a few select people. But if we have a me-and-my-ministry mentality, then we're surely going down the valley one by one.

We Need Each Other

If we're going up the mountain together, we must have a larger perspective of what all the different denominations and ministries mean. I think I've been touched by them all. I was raised

in an Assemblies of God church, and was saved there. I went to a Foursquare church for a short period with my parents, and was baptized in the Holy Spirit there. Then, our family was in the Church of God, where I was baptized in water and felt a call to the ministry. T.L. Osborn was my pastor for a time in the forties, and through his influence I became a healing evangelist for about ten years.

I had a deliverance ministry that took me around the world. Then, in 1965, God visited our church in a great move of restoration truths that transformed our lives. Since then, other waves of truth have affected me—charismatic, discipleship, faith, church growth, Kingdom, and signs and wonders.

God has used these great movements that have come through our land to leave deposits in all of us. Many times, however, we think that if a truth doesn't begin in our church or denomination, it cannot be of God. But God can start a movement anywhere He pleases, and when He does start it somewhere else, that shouldn't lessen its impact or importance.

Five Steps up the Mountain

When we realize that God does give other groups of believers His truths, and when we begin to climb the mountain and go up to the house of the Lord together, we must keep these five principles from Ephesians chapter 4 firmly in mind:

First, we are prisoners of Jesus Christ (see verse 1). A prisoner has no rights and does only what he is told. As prisoners of Jesus Christ, as His bond slaves, we don't have any rights. He purchased us, and He owns us lock, stock, and barrel. Once in a while, we rebel and try to do our own thing, but ultimately we're His prisoners. We are not prisoners of our ministries, churches, or denominations.

Second, there is one body, one Lord, one Spirit, one baptism, one Father God above all (see verses 4-6). It's *one*; it's not five churches

DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that Charles Simpson is visiting *New Wine* readers?

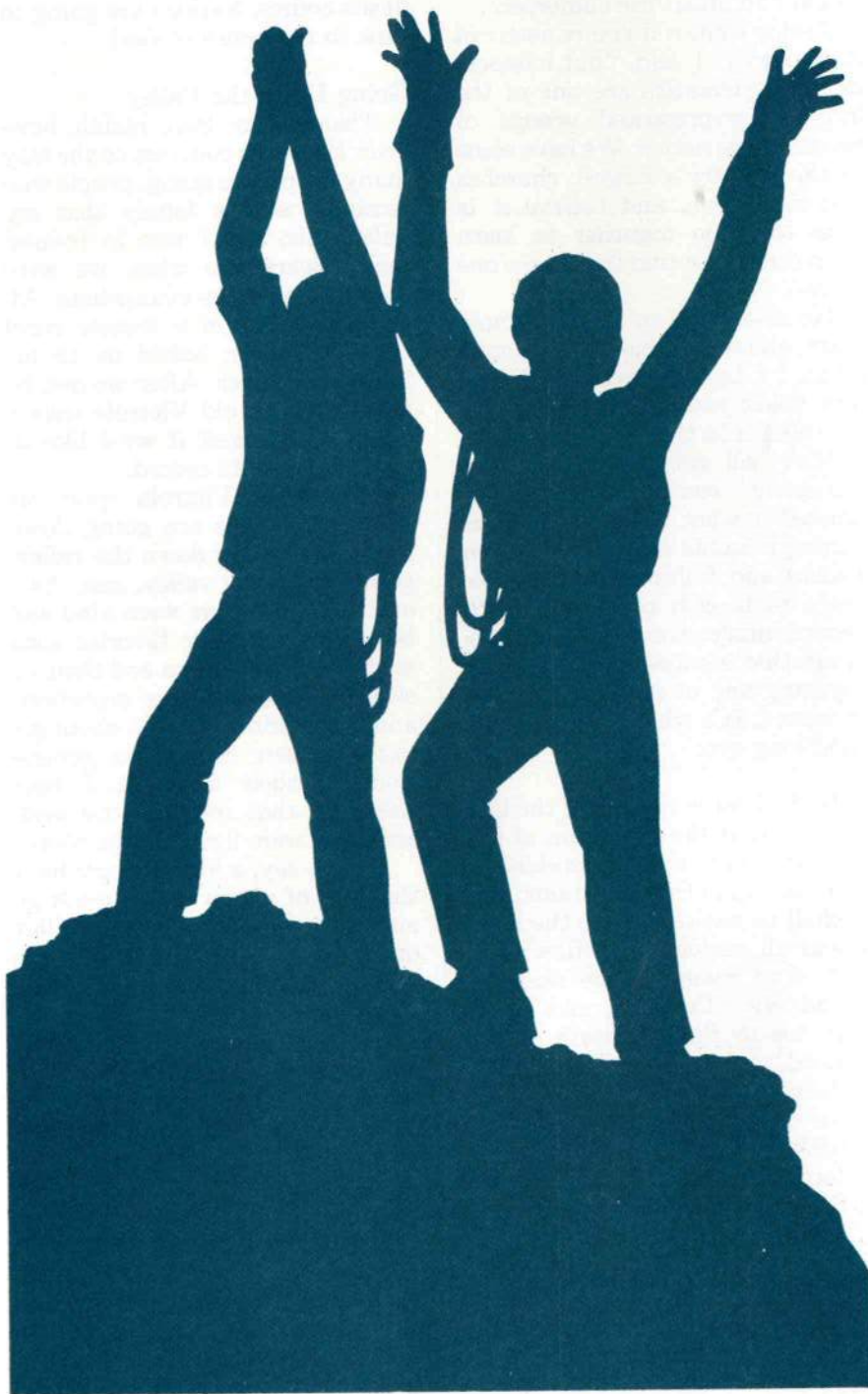
You now have the opportunity to meet Charles Simpson, chairman of the board of Integrity Communications, face-to-face and learn about the direction that God is taking *New Wine*, and receive personal ministry. Last year, meetings were held in Chicago, Cleveland, Denver, Detroit, Houston, Memphis, Minneapolis, and Oklahoma City. At the end of each meeting, Charles Simpson and the ministry team prayed for those attending, and many were healed, saved, or baptized in the Holy Spirit as they were touched by the power of God.

Duane and Donna Lane, who attended the Minneapolis meeting, write:

Thank you for coming to minister to us. Brother Charles prayed for a release of finances, and after the meeting the Lord gave us a vision. We saw evil spiritual forces grabbing our money, and as we prayed, they dropped them. But then they grabbed the money again before it reached us. Then, I saw Jesus take His shepherd's staff and rap the evil forces. They released the money and it's been flowing in ever since. Praise the Lord!

Next month, Charles Simpson will meet with *New Wine* readers in Dallas and in southern California. (See inside back cover for information on how to attend.) Other meetings this year are planned for different cities around the country. Watch for details. We'd be happy to have you join us, and we thought you'd like to know. □

**God will use the multiple
ministries of the Body to
establish His glory on the
top of the mountain.**



and four lords. The Reverend Moon isn't Lord. Jesus Christ is Lord, and He has only one body. As His prisoners, we have no right to say anything except, "Yes, Lord. You say You have one body? Then You've got one body."

Third, God has given the Church multiple ministries (see verses 7, 11). There are apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers, and when these flow together, God's plan will work. The prophet has to look at the evangelist and say, "He's part of the ministry that God has put in His body." The teacher has to look at the healer and say the same thing. But if we try to do it all ourselves, we go off on a tangent.

Fourth, our objective is not only to catch a lot of fish, but also to bring them to maturity so that they can get the job done (see verses 12-13). Ministries are supposed to mature the saints, and God will use the multiple ministries of the Body to establish His glory on the top of the mountain—not in some back alley—but on the very top for the whole world to see.

Fifth, if we don't walk in the first four points, we will be tossed like a wave at sea by every "wind of doctrine" (see verses 14-16). We usually think of wind of doctrine as being deception. But the word *wind* in the Bible is not necessarily a negative term. It simply means "breath" and is used many times in reference to the Holy Spirit. We all want God's breath or wind to blow upon us. I've been influenced by the winds and waves that I mentioned earlier, and I've enjoyed them all!

The word *doctrine* also is not a negative term. Deuteronomy 32:2 says, "My doctrine shall drop as the rain." Job 11:4 says, "My doctrine is pure." And Proverbs 4:2 says, "For I give you good doctrine." *Doctrine* simply means "the teaching of God's word." We all want to be taught. We all want the Holy Spirit to blow upon us and teach us His ways.

Truth or Error?

If we're tempted to say, "But I don't believe what that group is teaching," we must realize this: An error is simply a truth taken to ex-

treme. Error is not the off-the-wall cult that no one understands; it's truth out of balance. Every move of God starts with a truth, but often it begins to go astray when it's not brought into balance with other truths.

But truth out of balance isn't the only danger we face. Ephesians chapter 4 further states that we will be blown about by these winds of doctrine with the sleight of men and their cunning craftiness. What happens is that truth out of balance leads to manipulation by doctrine. We can manipulate people by our doctrine; we can keep them in our little corner. I know, because I've been guilty of it.

It's a sectarian spirit that can hit anyone. We can manipulate people by saying, "We've got the corner on the market. You've got to leave your group and get into ours if you really want truth." But that's not God's plan. When He reveals something to us, He wants us to share it with other brethren. He also expects us to be willing to receive truth from others.

God wants unity more than we want it. But if the Body is ever going to be built up, all the great waves that are truly of God must come together. Otherwise, we're going to have faith churches, Latter Rain churches, restoration churches, charismatic churches, and signs and wonders churches—and we're going to go down in the valley one by one.

We are in a season now in which God, by His Spirit, is bringing the different winds of doctrine together. And if we will cooperate with what He wants to do, we will soon find ourselves going up the mountain to the house of the Lord, and the whole earth will see His glory. □



Dick Iverson, senior pastor of Bible Temple, Portland, Oregon, is a New Wine contributing editor. He and his wife, Edie, live in Portland.



Don Basham on successful living

NEXT MONTH IN NEW WINE: SUCCESS

Don Basham says that although the world would make us think that success and happiness are found in fame and fortune, true success is found in faithfulness. Don looks at the Old Testament story of Joseph and what made him successful.

Charles Simpson observes that our society is turning away from a "victim" mentality to one of achievement. Using the biblical story of Daniel, Charles shares what it takes to succeed.

Ken Sumrall shares the vision God gave him nearly twenty years ago to build a Christian college and how he achieved it, and offers practical insights for making the dreams God gives us come true.

Also, the inspiring testimony of a man who overcame a seemingly insurmountable handicap to achieve his heart's desire.

All in the February *New Wine*

Don't Miss the

How to know when there's a new move of God (and how to know

The woman who came up to me was young, pretty, and well dressed for someone at a camp meeting. Her question was direct: "Are you in the move of God?"

Because I was the camp Bible teacher and, of course, endowed with all of God's grace, I sputtered, "Yes...of course." The response seemed to make her happy and she left.

That strange encounter left me uncertain and muttering to myself. Had I lied to the woman? I wasn't sure if there *was* a move of God, let alone if I was in it. Her question haunted me for several weeks. Over and over it repeated itself in the chambers of my soul: "Are you in the move of God?"

Finally, I began to fast and seek the Lord. In desperation I cried, "God, if You are moving in the earth, anywhere or anyplace, please let me know!"

The answer to that prayer has been the source of my greatest joy and at the same time my greatest pain. If we are involved in what God is doing, we experience the deep joy that comes from obedience, but we also face the fierce inner struggle of the need to change that obedience brings about.

Since the day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit has continually moved among God's people. Our responsibility is to see where He is moving and to respond in hunger to Him and His purpose. Response and change go hand in hand.

If we're spiritually perceptive, we will know when the Spirit changes directions or begins a new emphasis. If we miss or reject the new thing God is doing, we will be in a state of limbo with a sense of being left behind. If, on the other hand, we always seek to hear some new thing, we'll end up spiritually unstable, forever church hopping, and ultimately stunted in our

growth and usefulness.

Keeping in step with God's Spirit is a challenge for us, but I've found five ways that help me know if God is moving me into something new, and five ways that help



me know when I've missed the move of God.

When It's Time to Go

The first symptom that God wants to move us into a new season is that the Holy Spirit begins to make a certain truth or doctrine come alive. It's never a "new" truth, but an old one that has been dormant and neglected.

Second, the Spirit-filled Church all over the world will suddenly begin to hear this truth. We should be cautious when we are "hearing"

something major that no one else is hearing, especially those of spiritual stature with proven ministries.

Third, a period of controversy follows the initial proclamation of this move. When an old truth makes a fresh appearance, the Church usually reacts negatively to it. Martin Luther and the Reformation are a good example of this. But the Lord uses controversy to make sure the truth is heard everywhere. Nothing spreads faster than controversy.

Fourth, a time of consolidation and implementation occurs. This is a difficult stage, because truth is always easier to discover than to apply and obey.

Finally, there is a reluctant admission and acceptance of the move of God as the Holy Spirit's emphasis for the time. We are then faced with a decision; if we have the courage to move on with the Spirit, our joy and vision increase.

When We've Missed It

The five symptoms of having missed the move of God are clear, having been a part of every move of the Spirit throughout Church history.

First, we experience diminished joy and unmet spiritual needs. When we are "in the move," joy is abundant and we are satisfied. When our contentment is gone, the Holy Spirit may be trying to put us on another search. We must be careful, however, to distinguish between unmet needs and false expectations.

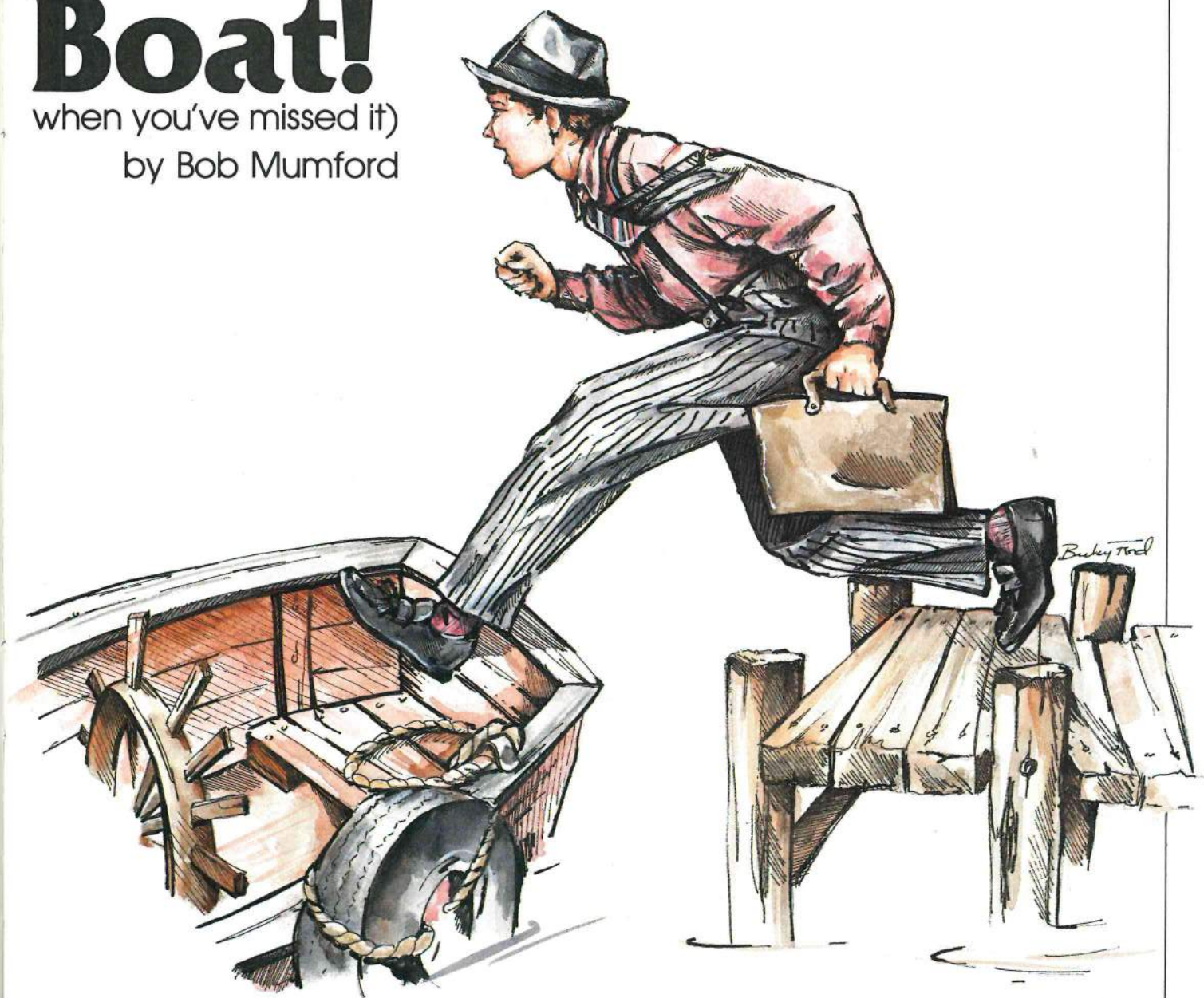
Second, we are overfed and undernourished. When we miss the Spirit's direction, we almost always increase our activity to compensate for it. We forsake God's provision of rest and move toward bigger meetings and larger programs. Of course, none of this satisfies us, and we become disillusioned and burned-out.

Third, we run out of grace. If we insist on remaining when the Holy

Boat!

when you've missed it)

by Bob Mumford



Spirit has moved on, we must do it in our own strength. In the past, we might have been able to hold on, stand steady, and keep on doing it, but now we can't.

Fourth, we begin to gradually recognize the cyclical trap. God's way is linear, making growth, maturity, and obedience measurable. Man's assignment apart from God is cyclical, causing him to feel, like a gerbil running in its exercise wheel, that he has been this way several times before. The cyclical trap is God's way of keeping us out of trouble until we wake up and realize we have missed Him.

Finally, petty factions, quarrels, and legalism begin to emerge and persist. The Galatians had this problem; they wanted to stay with what God had done in the past instead of moving on in His purposes. When people lose their vision, they also lose their joy. They eat but are not satisfied, and they begin to see that they are on a spiritual treadmill.

Change isn't easy. It's natural for us to resist it, but in the process of refusing to move, we can miss God. If these symptoms sound all too familiar, our prayer should be, "God, move me to where Your Spir-

it is moving." He who promised that He would never leave us or forsake us is faithful. He will help us to embrace the change that He has prescribed for our lives so that we can keep in step with the move of the Holy Spirit. □

Bob Mumford has served as dean of Elim Bible Institute in Lima, New York, and as a pastor, evangelist, and seminar teacher. Bob, who travels widely in ministry to Christians of all backgrounds, has also written a number of books about the Christian life. He is a member of the Integrity Communications Board of Directors and resides in San Rafael, California, with his wife, Judy, and their family.



SIMPSON

continued from page 6
our readers. I believe that *New Wine* should present a broad-based ministry so that we all can become mature and healthy Christians.

NW: Do you see the current emphasis on unity as a unique move of God, as compared to other times when Church leaders have tried to come together?

CS: Although throughout Church history there have been movements toward unity, this one is different in that it involves people who are open to the dynamics of the Holy Spirit. It is the result of a

spiritual tide—the Pentecostal movement, the charismatic movement, and the current spiritual awakening among Evangelicals. In the final analysis, unity has to be both volitional and spiritual, coming out of one's free will as a response to the Holy Spirit.

I view this time as a God-inspired season of unity with a purpose beyond unity itself. That's what's exciting. The implications are far beyond an ecumenical dialog that would establish peace among denominations. Rather, it portends a worldwide proclamation of the gospel with spiritual power.

NW: One aspect of this move toward unity is that it's a time for leaders to share their gifts rather than compromise them. What emphasis from your ministry do you want to contribute?

CS: A major emphasis for me is the need for plurality of leadership, which comes out of my experience with Don Basham, Ern Baxter,

Bob Mumford, and Derek Prince. Other emphases are the new covenant Christ made with us in His blood, the kingdom of God, and the need to disciple Christians in His ways.

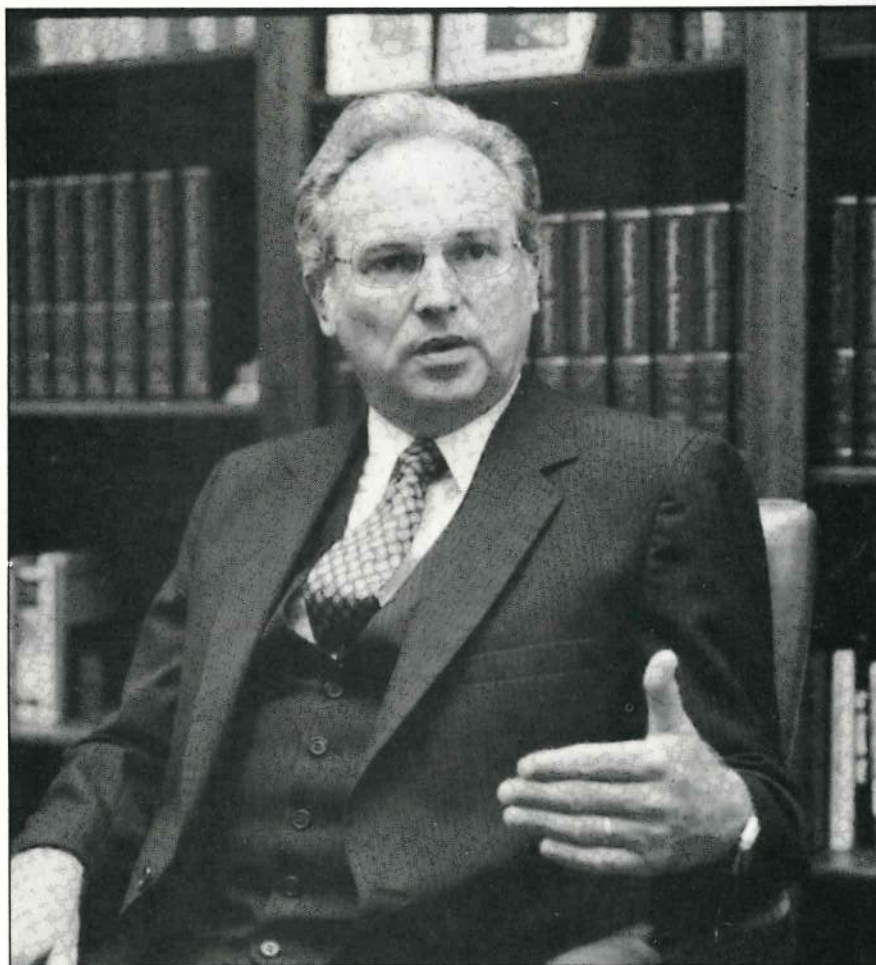
Like most leaders, I don't want to be labeled, because it's limiting—people associate you with one particular truth. The fact is, you can't build a church or a movement on one truth. We need the whole truth. We need the faith emphasis. We need the restoration emphasis. We need the Kingdom emphasis. All emphases must serve God's ultimate purpose.

I may have ideas about what I would like to say to the Church, but you can only say effectively what people are willing to hear. I believe that I have something to say about the new covenant as a basis for relationship, how leaders function together, how authority operates, and how the ministry of the Holy Spirit functions. I would address the Church from my experience in these truths. But to do that, I have to have a relationship with the larger Body. My emphasis at times has separated me from other Christians, but unity gives us all a broader platform for giving and receiving.

I don't feel that I've got to say something at this point, however. My major purpose is to let the larger Church know that I love it, and that I respect it. Beyond that, I'm waiting till someone asks me to say something. I think there are probably things I could say, but perhaps the fact that I'm willing to be there and not say anything says more.

NW: When leaders in the Church come together, do those who follow them come as well?

CS: I think so, although it may take a while. The original problem is with the leaders, so the solution must be with them. The problems are usually the result of poor communication and power struggles. Often, the egos of leaders bring about the division of the people, because they polarize around the leaders. It's very difficult for us as leaders not to be defensive, and to be secure enough to accept the va-



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Supernatural Revelation

Jesus ministered out of divine revelation from the Holy Spirit. All His ministry was done in the light of what the Spirit showed Him. Charles shows how you too can minister out of that same revelation through three particular gifts: the word of wisdom, the word of knowledge, and the discernment of spirits. Through these gifts, the Spirit enables you to more effectively help others come to repentance and a stronger reliance on God.

Supernatural Power

Jesus ministered through the power that the Holy Spirit gave Him. People were drawn to Him because everywhere He went something happened. Jesus operated in the realm of the miraculous—healing the sick, casting out demons, and moving in supernatural faith. Charles shows you how the Holy Spirit can give you the same power to minister in those realms so that you can accomplish His purposes today. You'll begin to expect God to use you in new and exciting ways!

Supernatural Utterance

In this tape Charles deals with the power of the tongue and how Jesus used that power as an instrument of God. He shows how God wants you to use your words to encourage and bring life to others as Jesus did. Besides helping you to understand the significance of your everyday words, Charles also deals with the gift of prophecy and the vital part it played in Jesus' ministry. He outlines the characteristics of a prophet and the discipline and accountability that a prophet must have.

Supernatural Prayer

Charles discusses the nature of prayer and demonstrates how in Jesus' life prayer flowed out of His relationship with the Father. Your ability to intercede depends on the quality of your relationship with God. You'll see the need to have a trusting and honest relationship with Him. Prayer must be the basis for everything you do just as it was for Jesus. Charles gives you a list of do's and don't's to help you to enter into a deeper prayer life.

“The Lord is telling me to get more involved in the larger Church—both to learn from others and to share with them.”

riety of thinking that's out there.

But when leaders humble themselves and say to one another, “I need you, and I need to hear what you're saying,” then I believe that same attitude will follow in the people.

NW: What do you see ahead for you in your ministry?

CS: We are in the beginning of a new era that I would call evangelical-charismatic Christianity. I sense God calling me and other leaders to go out into public ministry beyond our normal constituents. That doesn't mean I'm going to leave the constituency I have; rather I'm going to encourage the people to reach beyond their own borders to the whole Church.

I've had some excellent fellowship with ministers who have not been identified with our movement,

men such as Ken Sumrall, Charles Green, Dick Iverson, John Gimenez, and Ken Copeland. The Lord is telling me to get more involved in the larger Church—both to learn from others and to share with them.

NW: If you could name 1986 the year of something, what would it be?

CS: I would have to agree with John Wimber, who said that he would call it “The Year of Equipping the Saints.” I would say “release of ministry,” however, because in our particular movement, we've had some emphasis on equipping. Our people have been trained, disciplined, and pastored to the point of introversion. I'm encouraging them to be free to minister what they have received. I pray that God will anoint them with great power to share with and

minister to other people. I see a real flood of ministry coming out of the body of Christ in 1986.

NW: What would you encourage our readers to do regarding the season the Church is in?

CS: I would encourage them—if they're people who want to see something happen—to pray for three things. First, pray for a wave of repentance that will cleanse our hearts, attitudes, and behavior. Second, pray for a revelation of God's purpose for the Church. I think the Church needs a revelation of why it exists and what it's here to do. Third, pray for a spiritual tide that will reach such proportions that it sweeps ministers and believers together. Unity requires more than just an ecumenical conviction. It requires a real flood of the Spirit. □



COPELAND

continued from page 6

various leaders but by our imitators. A person takes something I've said and builds something that blows sky-high, and I get the glorious credit. The same thing has happened with other leaders.

NW: We have heard that a characteristic of this move toward unity is that we're going to draw on

one another's strengths rather than trying to blend to the point of compromising our beliefs. Do you see that happening?

KC: Yes, that's a marked difference in the current move of unity. For many years, God has been teaching and developing different biblical truths in the different camps. While one group has been studying and developing truths about faith, another has been doing the same about holiness, for example.

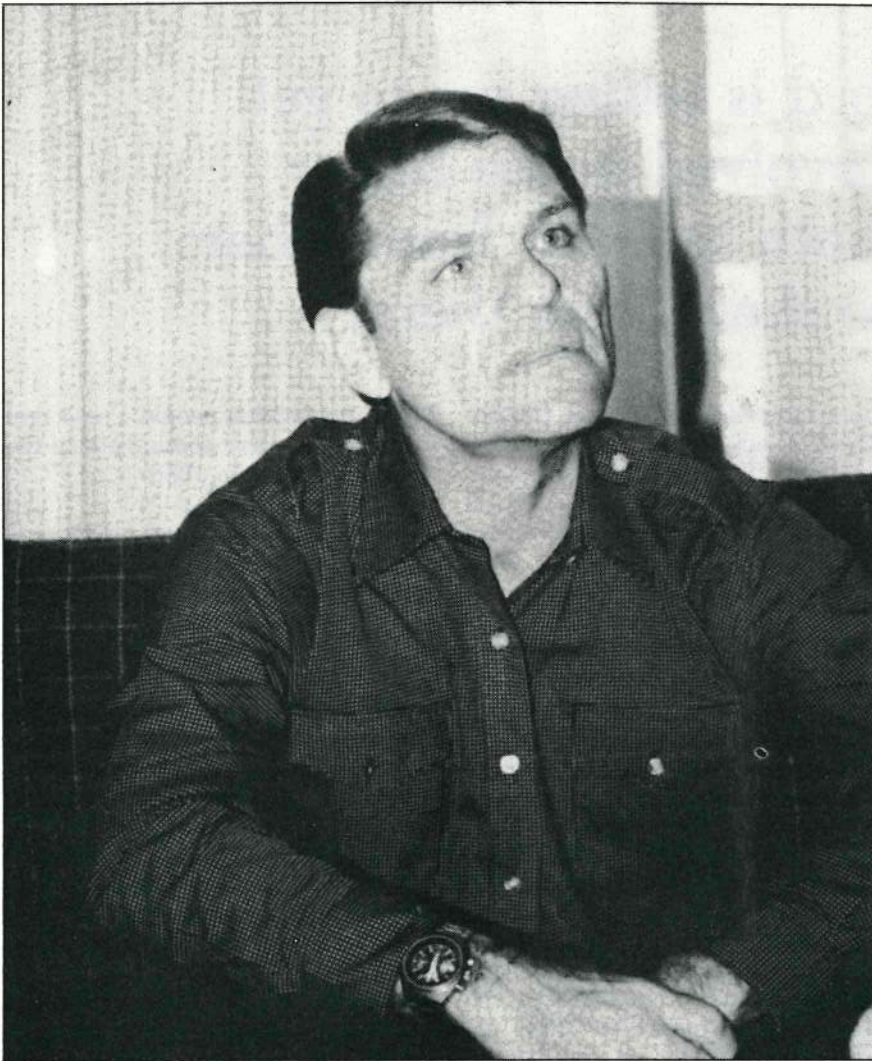
I don't think God would have me spend twenty years studying what another group has already learned, or have another group spend twenty years studying what I already know. He wants us to learn from one another, and not to

make the same mistakes again. I can learn a whole lot more from Bob Mumford now, for example, than I could fifteen years ago, because he knows more now than he did then.

NW: What strengths are you bringing into this exchange of truth?

KC: Years ago the Lord said to me, “I am going to teach you the laws of prosperity and the spiritual laws that govern abundance in My kingdom. You're going to have to learn them from Me. Then, I am going to hold you responsible for them.”

I have had to dig, research, pray, and incorporate into my life the truths I've learned about



“It’s time for the Body to come together and do what God planned for it to do.”

God’s laws concerning prosperity and abundance, and that has often brought a lot of flack to my family and me. But over a period of nineteen years we have lived by the principles the Lord has shown us, and they have produced.

NW: Do the truths from the various streams work together?

KC: Sure they do. While I was learning the principles of prosperity, Charles Simpson, Bob Mumford, Don Basham, and Ern Baxter got ahold of the impor-

tance of God’s covenants. Look at how our two ministries are related to one another in the Scriptures. Deuteronomy 8:18 says that God “giveth thee power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant.” When we got together, we really had something for one another.

NW: From reports of the Network meeting, it seems that with this fresh move of unity there is a new sense of the fear of God coming into the body of Christ. Do you get that feeling?

KC: Yes, I really believe there is. I’ve always had a fear in my spirit of talking against a man of God, and I’ve noticed recently that in a fresh way, I’m very cautious about what I say. Some people are skeptical of this unity movement and of accepting those with whom they’ve disagreed. They say, “If we open the door to this, what else will come in?” I don’t know, but I’m going to take a good look at a man before I say anything at all.

There is a place of revival and revelation in God that none of us can get to until we get together. We have a revelation of different truths that God has restored to the body of Christ, but there is a deeper revelation to come because no one has ever seen Him in the fullness of His stature.

We’ve come as far in what we’re called to do as we’re going to get until we come together and receive additional revelation from one another. I’m going to have to have your faith to help me get what else God has for me. You’re going to have to have my faith to help you get what else God has for you.

NW: What’s ahead for you and the Kenneth Copeland Ministries?

KC: God has begun to deal with me about reaching other leaders concerning not only His laws of prosperity but also sharing with them my life and what I’ve learned in the last twenty-three years of preaching. I feel that He wants me to minister to them, encourage them, and build them up.

I’ve planned a conference for ministers from all over Africa. I believe they’re in such deep trouble now because they don’t know these laws of prosperity that God has shown me. I’ve already had the opportunity to prove they work there. God sent me to one area where there had been a terrible drought. I saw the people believe God, and while I was there, it rained four and one-half inches. As I minister to these leaders, they in turn will reach the rest of their continent.

So the bottom line for my upcoming ministry is that I will continue sharing the same message, but I’ll be doing it in some different places. □



GIMENEZ

continued from page 7

1 Corinthians. People were divided because of the source of their ministry, but Paul told them they needed to get back to the fact that the doctrine was from God. We have to do the same thing, and then reach out to others in love and compassion, sitting down, not once or twice, but ten times or a hundred times if need be to maintain peace in the body of Christ. When we maintain the strength of the body of Christ, we can do His will.

NW: It seems that at the Network meeting in Denver last summer there was a different spirit of unity than ever before. Are we in a different season of unity now than twenty years ago?

JG: Yes, we are. Twenty years ago, there were other emphases that were stronger than unity. Important as they were at the time, they caused great separation and misunderstanding in the Body. Twenty years of experience, twenty years of hungering to touch your brother, twenty years of the body of Christ suffering under the spirit of separation and division, twenty years of seeing what separation and division can do, has caused a flood of unity. We see it all over. We realize now that together we stand; separated we fall.

NW: People are saying that we need to come together and drink from different leaders. In drinking from John Gimenez, what would we receive from him?

JG: It's going to be simple, because I'm not a very profound fellow! But you'll drink from the fountain of joy: the joy of Christ, the joy of being saved, the joy of loving God, the joy of loving your

wife, the joy of loving your children, the joy of loving life, and the joy of having the opportunity to live in this time with the knowledge of Jesus Christ as Lord.

NW: What's ahead this coming year for the congregation you pastor?

JG: We have just started the Rock Christian Network that will go on the air nationally in March. Our three goals for it are to bring glory to God, to promote the unity of the Body, and to build the local church. With those three emphases, God has spoken to me and said, "I am going to command a blessing to you and your church." God has spoken prophetically that our congregation of five thousand will increase to twenty thousand.

We have also started a university—the first extension of Oral Roberts University. God gave a commandment that we're to train and prepare from the cradle to the grave. As a result of this school, we expect a great move of God. We believe it's God's will that the righteous should reign on this earth, and we're seeing people preparing themselves to be lawyers, doctors, generals, admirals, presidents, and congressmen. The righteous will rule and the people will rejoice.

NW: Tell us more about this new television network.

JG: It will broadcast twenty-four hours a day and will feature all kinds of ministries. For instance, there's going to be an all-night program called *Nightlight*, where people call in for discussion, prayer, and just talking—for those who are up late at night, or who are lonely or frustrated. It's going to include a program from Washington called *A Capital Idea* with Dee Jepsen, wife of former U.S. Senator Roger Jepsen. We're also going to have a mobile unit called "The Holy Roller." It will go to different churches a week at a time to highlight various ministries.

The network's emphasis is not John and Anne Gimenez. It's the body of Christ. It's going to be tied in to the Network of Christian Ministries, and our desire is to draw together the Body. We're buying a production studio with all the latest equipment so that we can have top, professional programming. But it's going to be used to promote the unity of the body of Christ. God says, "I'll bless you when you unite with your brothers." I'm selfish about that. I'm doing it with the motivation that if we can help to unite the Body, Jesus will be able to bless Brother John. □





WIMBER

continued from page 7

gospel. They do not believe that they have God's full favor, that they're cleansed and purified, and that they're empowered. They do not believe at the deepest levels of their being that they're the righteousness of God. So that unbelief affects their daily actions, and they end up living rather humdrum lives. On the one hand, they say from time to time at church services, "We are the victorious ones. We are the overcomers." But, in fact, they're living daily a subnormal Christian existence.

NW: What do you do to combat the unbelief?

JW: I think we need to get the Church saved! We need to get be-

lievers full of the Holy Ghost, full of the Word of God, full of faith, full of the righteousness of God, and full of God's love for the whole Church. I see people running around the country trying to get the old man healed, constantly struggling with the things that predate the cross in their lives. They are consistently struggling with their old self and not bringing it to Jesus, not bringing it under the blood, not counting it as dead, and not actualizing God's forgiveness and walking in the freedom of it.

I'm not critical of people who are harmed and hurt by past sin in their lives, but what I'm saying is that we need to preach the gospel to them so that they can truly understand what the cross means, and what it means to be saved, to be free of the past.

NW: What do you sense is ahead for the Church?

JW: The Church needs to become one. We need to let the love of Christ fill us and manifest itself in the brilliance of Jesus' presence in the world today. That can be ac-

complished if we'll lay down our rigidity and resistance, and our hatred for the larger body of Christ—for those who baptize differently than we do, or who practice differently than we do. John 17:21 has to become reality to us so that we come to the place where we really do love one another in a genuine way. In so doing, the world will know that the Father has sent Jesus.

I believe that the Church is going to experience an ever-greater union. I also believe that we live in the midst of the greatest revival in Church history. Indications are that the Church will grow at a rate unparalleled in history and that incredible numbers of believers will be Spirit filled by the end of this century. Some are predicting that as much as eighty-five percent of all Christendom will be Spirit filled by the end of this century. That would mean literally hundreds of millions of people.

I also think the Church is getting equipped, that people are excited about learning and training. We have ever-increasing numbers of people attending our training meetings. A few years ago, if we could get three hundred people out, it was a big deal. But now we get thousands. We're getting letters from people all over the country who are saying, "I'm experiencing something I've never experienced before. God is using me. I'm healing the sick. I'm casting out demons. I'm beginning to move in power." And that is happening with everyone we're working with. I got hundreds of letters after a Lutheran conference we participated in. It's the same with Episcopalians, Presbyterians, Catholics, and Baptists.

NW: If you could label 1986 as the year of something special for the Church, what would it be?

JW: This past year has been one in which I saw something that I had only heard about for years. It was the equipping of the believers, as opposed to the releasing of more leaders. It seems to me that will continue next year. I would call 1986 "The Year of Equipping the Saints." □



Too close to home **A Battle for Religious Freedom**

A pastor is arrested for conducting church services in the basement of his home. Of course, that's not unusual in places behind the iron curtain. The only problem is that this is happening in the United States.

Pastor Richard Blanche of Colorado Springs was sentenced in September to a six-month jail term and a thousand-dollar fine for having church meetings in his home. That decision was vacated, however, in late November when he was granted a new trial. On January 24 and again on January 31, Blanche's fate will be decided in two separate trials for alleged offenses involving the meetings in his home.

The dispute is over the wording of the city's zoning ordinance, which requires that any residence used as a "religious institution" have a conditional use permit and meet acreage requirements. In Blanche's case, his home would have to be on two and one-half acres to qualify for the permit. But it is not.

The city defines a religious institution as an "establishment for the conduct of religious activities," but defines activities as a church, seminary, or monastery. Blanche maintains that the law is so vague that it could be construed to disallow personal Bible study in one's home. In this particular case, however, Blanche was cited for holding church meetings in his home: Sunday morning services, weeknight Bible studies, and even a breakfast for his congregation.

A Look at the Issues

One of Blanche's attorneys, Roger Westlund of Denver, sees two issues in this case. The first is constitutional. The ordinance, he



George Tilson, a member of Pastor Richard Blanche's congregation, leads an adult Bible study in the basement of Blanche's home in Colorado Springs.

says, is vague, making the intent difficult to determine. It also infringes on religious freedom and freedom of speech. "Here in Denver," he says, "seeing a Broncos football game is a religious experience for some. If Blanche had decided to invite members of his congregation over every Sunday to watch the Broncos on television, that would be appropriate. But because he is getting them together strictly for a religious purpose, his conduct is criminal."

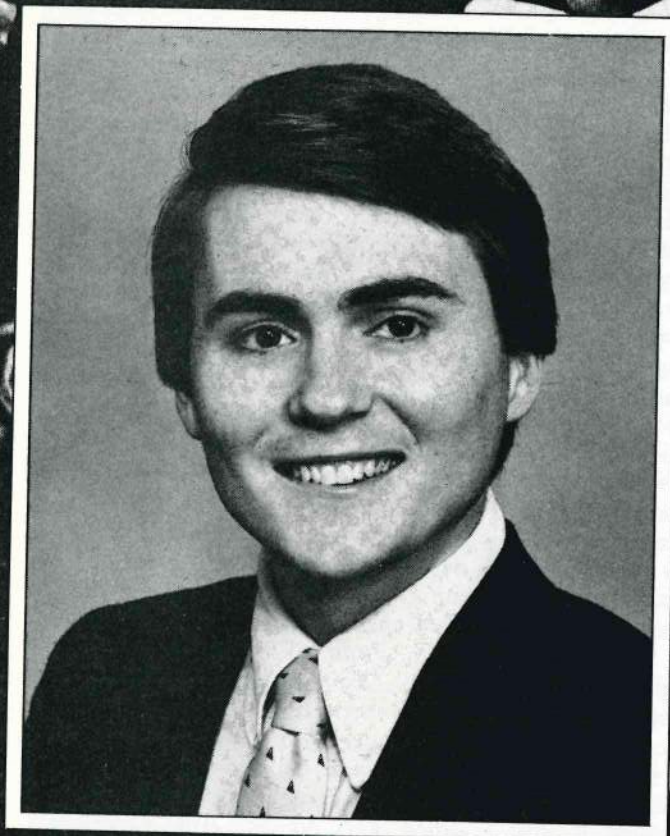
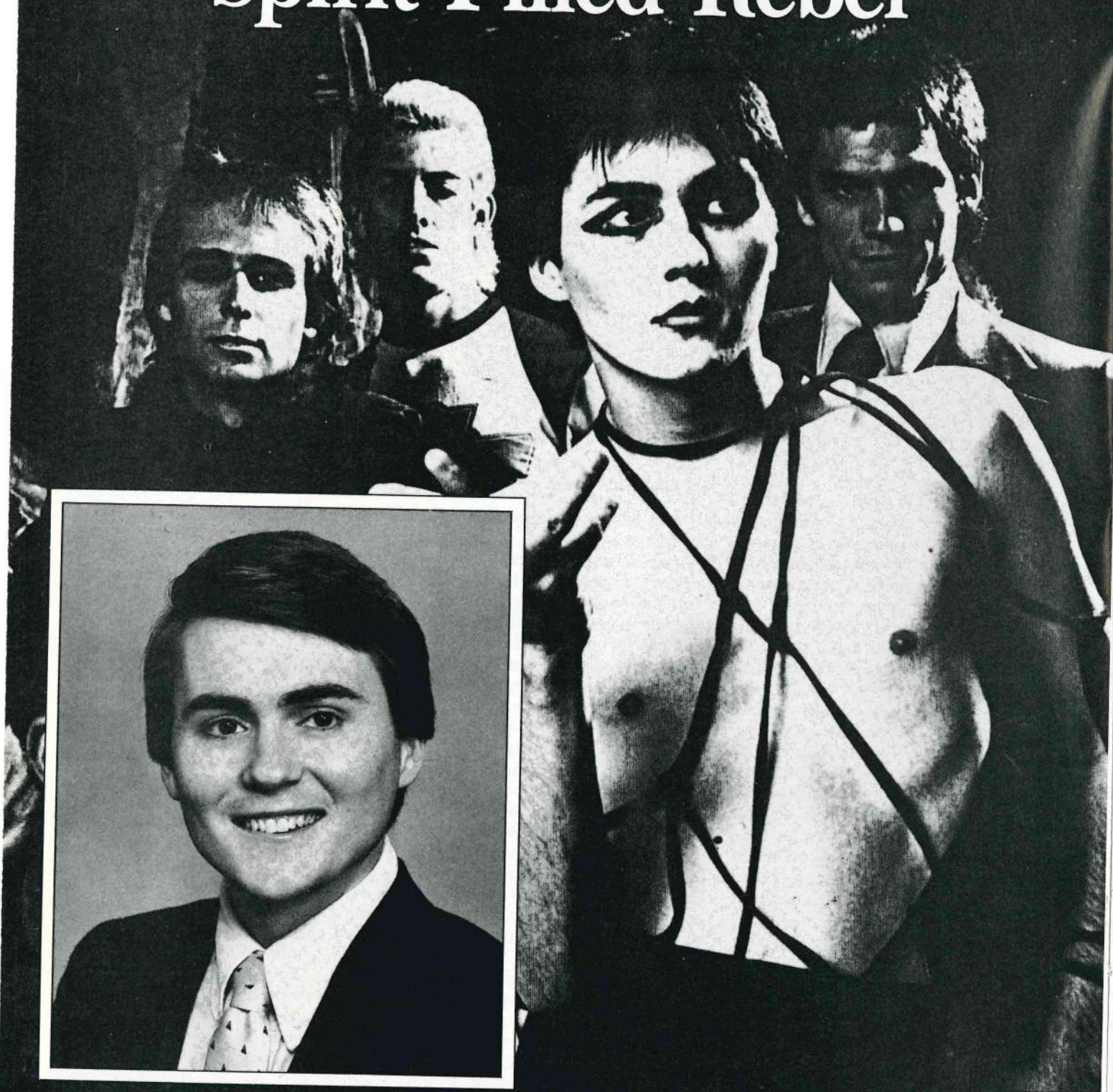
The second issue, according to Westlund, is that Christians need to stand up when the law is unjust. "We feel any encroachment on religious liberties is a dangerous precedent and a problem for Christians as a whole." Westlund's law firm is affiliated with the Rutherford Institute, an organization that offers legal help in cases that deal with religious freedom.

Christians outside of Colorado Springs need to be concerned about this case, he says, because of how broad the ordinance is. "It could be

used to shut down any kind of religious activity in a home." He doesn't think it would be construed to prohibit personal Bible reading, for example, but it could. If Blanche is found guilty in January, the court's decision would not be binding precedent, but it could be used in arguing for passage of a similar ordinance elsewhere. □

Editor's note: Please pray for Pastor Blanche, that God would intervene in his case and that all fines and charges against him would be dropped. Pray also for the city council and the judges involved in the case. Anyone interested in contributing money to help defray Pastor Blanche's legal expenses can send checks to Faith Bible Chapel Relief Fund, 6210 Ward Road, Arvada, Colorado 80004. Also, we would encourage readers to express their concern about this issue to the city council members in Colorado Springs in care of the city attorney's office, 30 S. Nevada Ave., Colorado Springs, Colorado 80901.

Born Again, Spirit-Filled Rebel



Phil Tolstead sold his soul to rock and roll. Would God give this backslider a second chance?

by Diana Scimone

In the world of punk rock, performances are designed to shock, but what took place in an Austin, Texas, club one night a few years back was more perverse and blasphemous than most punk-rock bands would dare to try.

The Huns, a band made up of University of Texas students, staged a mock crucifixion.

The man dressed as Jesus had fasted for three days in preparation for the event. As they hung him on the cross, the other members of the band screamed out the words to their song "Kill All Men," a gruesome parody of Jesus' mission to give life to mankind. The leader of the band, Phil Tolstead, set off a fire extinguisher on stage that sent billowing clouds of smoke into the audience, obscuring the delighted faces of the chanting teenagers.

In that instant of darkness, Tolstead stopped, frozen in the midst of the satanic horror going on around him. For a moment, just a split second, the conviction of God fell on him and he awoke from the mad parody and asked himself, *What am I doing?*

But before he would allow himself to answer that question, he quickly put it out of his mind and led the band in the next song of its bizarre act.

Saved at Nine

Perhaps the most shocking part of Phil Tolstead's story is not what he became, but what he once was—a Christian. At the age of nine, he made a commitment to the Lord after reading a gospel tract. "It was the first time I'd ever heard the gospel," he says, "but I quickly forgot my commitment." Later, when he was in high school, he recommitted his life to the Lord, and was baptized in the Holy Spirit. For a time his life revolved around his new faith—church, Bible studies, and other activities with his Christian friends. A local Christian organization even chose him as an outstanding high school student and asked him to speak at its annual banquet.

On the outside, Phil was living a

clean, moral life. "There was no drinking, no drugs, no sex," he says. But like many teenagers, Phil loved rock-and-roll music, and listened to it often. "I didn't want to believe it was wrong, so I found reasons to justify listening to it," he explains.

After high school graduation, Phil enrolled at the University of Texas. He still considered himself a Christian, but bit by bit the outward manifestations, such as going to church and reading the Bible, began to fade. Soon the facade began to crumble completely. When he was a junior, punk rock music was becoming popular, and he rushed out to buy the first punk-rock record released, "Anarchy in the UK."

"It was by an English group, the Sex Pistols. Some of the lyrics are, 'I am an anarchist. I am an Antichrist.' I fell completely in love with it and would play it before tests because I felt an actual power coming from it." When the band went on a U.S. tour, Phil made sure he was in the audience. "I was completely captivated," he recalls. "Punk rock expressed all the bitterness pent up inside me because of all the broken dreams and relationships I'd already had at college. I knew I wasn't living right anymore, but I didn't want to think about it. I just got completely lost in flashing lights and loud music—anything to keep my mind occupied."

Oddly enough, Phil's college environment had a lot to do with what was going on inside him. His curriculum included courses such as "The History and Theory of Rock and Roll," "Eroticism in Film and Literature," which covered hard-core pornographic movies and books, and "Censorship in Literature." Phil recalls that pornographic films were shown on campus as part of the weekend film-series, and the student union had late-night drinking parties—university sanctioned, sponsored, and advertised.

Skyrocketed to Fame

Finally, Phil decided to form his

own punk-rock band—The Huns—the first ever in Austin. The band's debut took place in September 1978 at a club near the university. What happened that night skyrocketed The Huns to instant fame—not only in Austin, but across the country and even in England. They were in the spotlight, and they loved it.

"I was singing a nice little song called 'Eat Death Scum,'" Phil recalls, "when a policeman walked into the club to investigate a report that we were disturbing the peace. The minute I saw him, the hatred and rebellion in me flared up, and I walked to the edge of the stage and began hurling obscenities at him. The policeman took it for a while, but finally reached his boiling point and arrested me." A fight broke out, and dozens of other policemen responded to the call for help. When Phil saw them, he started screaming to the crowd at the top of his lungs, "Kill the policemen!" He was handcuffed, dragged off the stage, and taken to jail, where he was charged with starting a riot.

The incident made instant headlines. It was reported in *Rolling Stone*, an American rock-and-roll magazine, and also in England in *New Musical Express*. Phil was a celebrity. "My professors wore my band's T-shirts and invited me out for drinks because they wanted to be friends with a rock star. It was what I'd always dreamed of in high school," he says. "Suddenly I was famous and had girls seeking me out because they'd seen my picture in the papers. I was expected to be the wild man at parties, so I had to put on a performance all the time. I was ruled by this punk image, but it made my life completely miserable."

Next, Phil began to investigate satanism. "Supposedly it was just for our stage shows," he says, "but I know the songs I wrote were inspired by the devil. We did research on satanic symbols for



"The same demons that would dictate songs, costumes, and ideas to me started to drop thoughts of death into my head."

stage. We even found prayers to Satan, which we performed in our shows." Captured by Satan, he began to drink increasingly and became sexually promiscuous. "But my depression and bitterness grew because those sorts of things give only temporary pleasure. After the first rush of excitement, I was always left more hungry, dejected, and bitter than ever. My constant companions were despair and hopelessness."

Still searching for happiness, Phil married a singer-actress, but the same forces that had driven him to become a rock star ripped his marriage apart within a year. "The drinking, groupies, rebellion, hatred, and obscenities that make up the rock life-style are the very things that prevent you from finding happiness with another person. What makes you a star eventually destroys you," he says.

In October 1980, after Phil graduated from college, he and two other members of the band moved to Los Angeles. "I had lived my life running from one fantasy to the next, and finally I ran out of dreams," he says. "There were no more phases to go into. I had reached the point where I could no longer get excited about anything or anyone. Instead, the same demons that would dictate songs, costumes, and ideas to me started to drop thoughts of death into my head. It wasn't long before I knew I was going to commit suicide. For all intents and purposes, my life was over."

Out of the Pit

But God had other plans for Phil. Suddenly everywhere he turned, he saw the Lord trying to get his attention. He'd walk down the street and people would witness to him. He'd go to a concert and find a tract on his seat. He'd turn on the television and someone would be preaching. "Then a guy came up to me at a punk rock movie and told me about Jesus," he recalls. "I made fun of him, but he just smiled and kept on witnessing. I couldn't get that loving face or the fact that I couldn't offend him out of my mind. He just kept smiling and witnessing."

Then, for his sister's birthday,

he decided, because she was a Christian, to send her *The Screwtape Letters* by C.S. Lewis. He noticed that the book was about demons, a subject that he was interested in, so before he sent it to her, he read it himself.

"For the first time, I was face-to-face with the cold, hard reality of the Almighty God. Life was no longer some hazy philosophy." The fear of God came on Phil and he began trying to clean up his life, but soon he realized he couldn't do it on his own. Finally, he got on his knees, told God he gave up, and turned his life over to Him.

"At that moment a peace settled into my soul," he says. "The cares and the weight just lifted off and I knew I was in touch with the God of the universe. And I discovered I didn't have to live a wishy-washy, 'Christianette' life. I saw that God had called me to be mighty and to live life with His power."

Not long after that, Phil was listening to one of his favorite records, "I'm a Teenage Lobotomy," and was jolted by the lyrics. "I couldn't believe I'd spent years feeding on that garbage. I knew I didn't want anything influencing me other than God's high calling, so I destroyed my records—all five hundred of them—and my costumes, banners, and anything else connected with my punk rock life. Instead I began to hungrily read the Bible and every Christian book I could find."

Phil still didn't have a church, so he asked God to lead him to one. After a few trial-and-error Sundays, he found the Maranatha Christian Church of West Los Angeles on the campus of the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA), where he has been attending ever since. In September 1984, he entered full-time ministry with Maranatha as an evangelist to UCLA's international students. He has also preached in other churches, in juvenile homes, and on television, and has been blessed to see hundreds of people come to know the Lord as a result of his testimony.

God's Overwhelming Mercy

"When I look back at what I was

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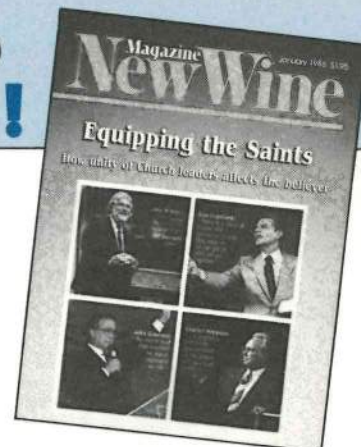
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like in high school and college," Phil says, "I realize that I did what I did because I didn't see any contradiction between being a Christian and anything else I was doing, such as listening to rock. My understanding of Christianity back then was that you obey a few external rules and then a blanket of forgiveness covers everything else. I was content with a set of religious guidelines, but I wasn't obeying what Jesus said was the greatest commandment—to love Him with your whole heart, soul, mind, and strength."

Phil says that it was difficult for him to come to terms with his wickedness. "I did what I did in the name of art, and I never really thought I was a 'bad' person. Every now and then I'd do a good deed. One time, for example, I helped someone passed out on the street, and I congratulated myself for being such a kind, loving human being. I was completely blind to the evil in my life.

"Rock and roll shaped all my dreams, hopes, and desires," he continues. "What amazes me the most is that Jesus Christ literally took every bit of my involvement in satanism, adultery, drunkenness, and utter perversion in His own body on the cross. He was made sin on my behalf so that I could be cleansed and relate to God as a son."

It was difficult for Phil to communicate to his punk rock friends what God did for him, because they were skeptical about his transformation.

"It's just another phase," predicted one of them. "This one will last about ten months."

But Phil's conversion isn't just a phase. It's a total transformation because God gave him a second chance—a chance to start over. □



Diana Scimone is an editorial assistant for New Wine.

WARNING: Rock Music May Be Hazardous to Your Child's Health

When four mothers heard what rock stars, such as Prince and Madonna, were singing to their children, they decided to take action. (We'd print some examples of songs here, but can't—they're too graphic.)

Susan Baker, wife of Treasury Secretary James Baker; Tipper Gore, wife of Senator Albert Gore, Jr., of Tennessee; Pamela Howar, wife of a Washington businessman; and Sally Nevius, wife of a former Washington City Council chairman, formed Parents' Music Resource Center (PMRC), and as a result of the group's efforts, many record companies have agreed to label records that have violently or sexually explicit lyrics, or that suggest the use of drugs or alcohol. Warning labels or lyrics will be printed on the outside of these albums early this year.

Here are just a few reasons why it's important to stop obscene rock:

- **Music is an aid in verbal retention.** That's why shows such as *Sesame Street* use songs to teach children, and why advertisers use catchy jingles to help people remember their products. Repetition affects our subconscious and eventually wears down our resistance, making things once totally unacceptable seem not so bad.

- **Music affects behavior.** Exposure to the cynical, violent, demeaning, sex- and drug-related messages that are communicated by many of today's rock performers is extremely damaging to children during their formative years. Young people look up to rock stars as role models and often take their message as a mandate for action. Because of that, some drug rehabilitation centers

don't allow rock music to be played, and make kids who leave promise not to listen to rock music for a year.

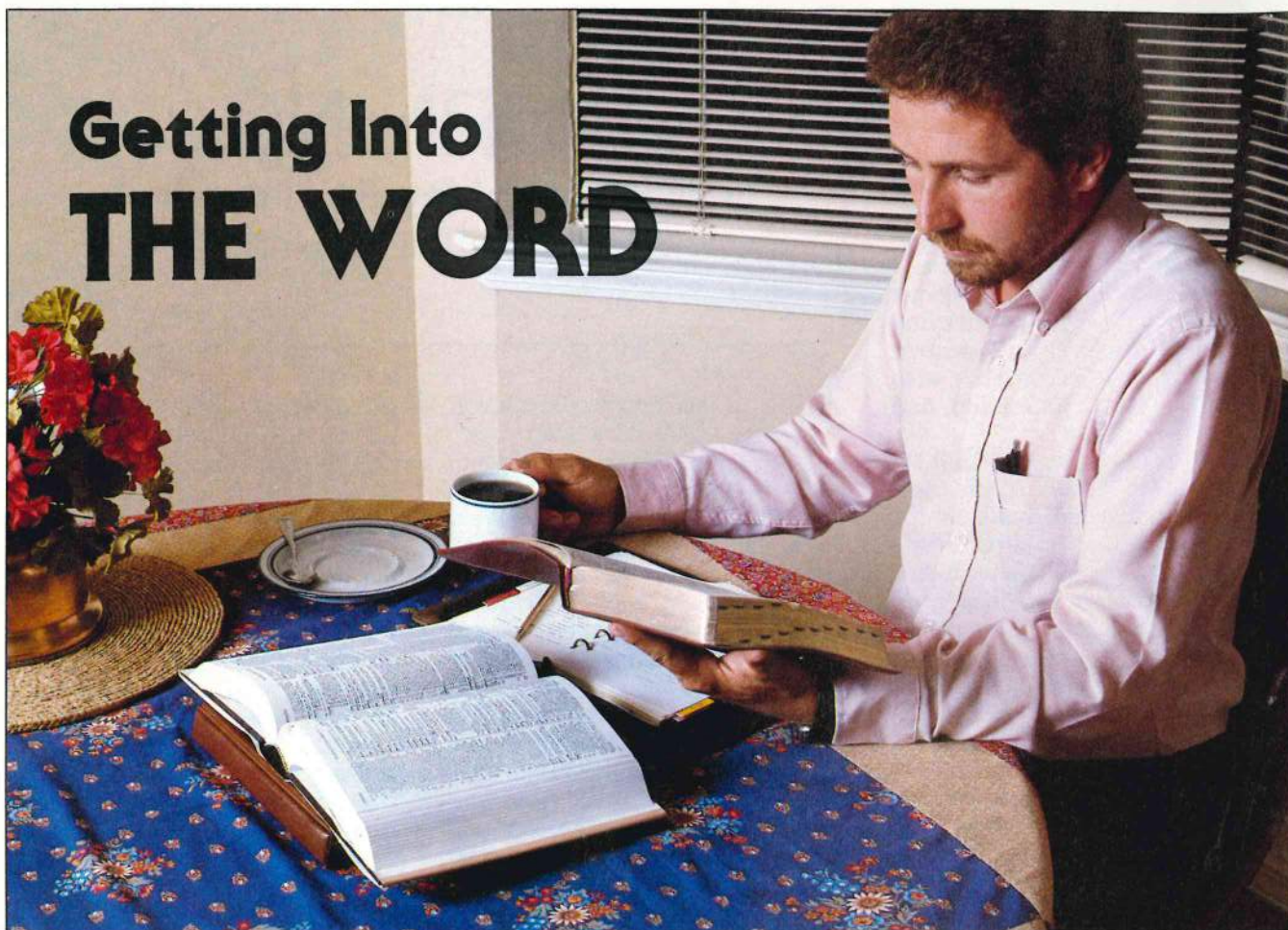
In addition to drug abuse problems, suicide among young people has increased three hundred percent in the last three decades. Now, every fourteen minutes a young person between the ages of fourteen and twenty-four takes his life. At least three rock stars perform songs that suggest suicide as an answer to problems: Ozzy Osbourne, "The Suicide Solution"; Blue Oyster Cult, "Don't Fear the Reaper"; and AC/DC, "Shoot to Thrill."

- **The average teenager listens to rock music between four and six hours a day.**

This is just some of the hard evidence against punk rock, heavy metal, and other forms of music that are pornographic or promote the use of drugs and alcohol. It should be enough to motivate parents to monitor what their children listen to, but like the surgeon general's warning on cigarette packages, it could very well go unheeded. Nevertheless, the warnings or lyrics will be available to help parents identify what could be hazardous to their children.

Because not all record companies are subject to the agreement, PMRC is asking parents to alert it to any records that don't have the warning label or lyrics but contain offensive words so that other parents can be warned. (Note, however, that the labels and lyrics won't be available until some time after the first of the year.) PMRC's address is 655 15th St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20005. □

Getting Into THE WORD



A new monthly feature to help equip the saints

During the next twelve months this section of *New Wine* will be developed to help you study the Bible. *New Wine* wants to bring to you the fruit of studies from proven Bible teachers. But we also want to help you study the Word for yourself, and be equipped for the ministry God has given to you.

Here are some of the goals we will seek to achieve in this study section:

1. We want to give you a perspective that will enable you to see God's overarching purpose throughout all the Scriptures. Of course, our ability to do that will depend upon God's help. But we want you to see the Bible as a continuing revelation from a sovereign God who has a plan.
2. We want to give you an overview of history that will provide you with a framework for the Bible facts you have and those you will

accumulate.

3. We want to give you a knowledge of Bible characters that enables you to identify with them and the ways God worked in their lives.

To accomplish these objectives, we will give you information about the times and circumstances in which the Bible was written, and walk with you through the unfolding revelation.

We will use three keys to unlock the Bible message: One key is *the kingdom of God*. It tells us what God is doing in the earth. A second key is *the incarnation principle*. This is how God gets His will done on earth—through people. The third key is *the Holy Spirit*. This is the power that moves the people to accomplish His will. Don't forget these three keys: the kingdom of God, the incarnation principle, and the Holy Spirit. Take them with you at all times, especially to Bible study.

This month we will use the first key: the kingdom of God. This is the most prevalent theme in the entire Bible. Jesus spoke of it often. He taught us to pray, "Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven" (Mt. 6:10). It is this prayer that binds Old Testament and New Testament saints together.

The Bible is the revelation of God's ways. It is the "Kingdom manual." From the beginning, God has sought through His Word to reveal to mankind His reign and His ways, which bring righteousness, peace, and joy through the power of the Holy Spirit. The Bible concludes by telling us that finally, the ways of God will prevail over the ways of man when "the kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign forever and ever" (Rev. 11:15).

FIRST ASSIGNMENT:

Read the Book of Genesis, looking at how God exercised His government over mankind and creation.

Questions for study and discussion (good for table talk or group Bible studies):

1. Why did God prohibit mankind from eating the fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil? (Study Genesis 1:26-31; 2:7-17; 3:1-19; and Matthew 4:4.)

2. How do we discern right from wrong?

3. What was the process of the fall of mankind? What bearing does this have on our ability to stand or fall?

SECOND ASSIGNMENT:

Read Exodus 3:7-20; Numbers 23:12-23 and 24:5-9.

Questions for study and discussion:

1. When did Israel first realize that it was not only a family, but also a nation?

2. Who was Israel's king? What form of government did Israel have?

THIRD ASSIGNMENT:

Read 1 Samuel chapter 8 and 2 Chronicles chapters 5-7.

Questions for study and discussion:

1. Why is 1 Samuel 8:7 so pivotal in the emerging of the revelation of the kingdom of God?

2. How were earthly kings supposed to fit into God's rule over His people?

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

Bright, John. *The Kingdom of God*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1953.

Smith, Malcolm. *The Kingdom Here and Now*. Old Tappan, New Jersey: Fleming H. Revell Company, 1976.

This study was prepared by Bruce Longstreth, Frank Longino, and Charles Simpson.

An Update on the Ministry of

CHARLES V. SIMPSON
P.O. BOX Z, MOBILE, AL 36616

Dear Friends in Christ,

One year ago the Lord spoke to me and said, "Go out to the recipients of **New Wine Magazine**, communicate what you are doing, and pray for their needs." I remembered that the ministry of **New Wine** began that way more than sixteen years ago. Immediately we planned meetings with our readership in Memphis and Oklahoma City, and then later in Denver, Detroit, Chicago, Minneapolis, and Cleveland. These meetings not only confirmed to us that God had led us to communicate personally with our readers and pray for them, but also that He was leading us to reach out beyond our current spiritual borders. On February 21, we will be in Dallas at the Loews Anatole Hotel, and on February 22, we will be in Garden Grove, California, at the Alicante Princess Hotel to minister to those who have supported us over the years. We also welcome any others who express interest.

I find myself in a very exciting time of new spiritual adventure. The Holy Spirit is not given for mere maintenance and survival, but for expansion and spiritual conquest. A new wave of God's power to unite, restore, and expand is upon us. We want our efforts here to line up with what God is doing through the entire Church.

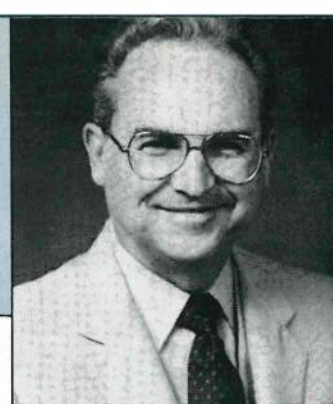
Since 1980, Integrity Communications, the parent company of **New Wine Magazine**, Tape of the Month, Bob Mumford's Recommended Tapes, Hosanna! Music, **Fathergram**, **Plumblin'**, and Integrity House, has produced 4.75 million magazines, 700,000 teaching tapes, and 1 million newsletters that regularly go to 165 nations. During some of those years Integrity Communications has given up to \$500,000 worth of free materials to the imprisoned, the poor, and the international requests. We receive more than 15,000 letters each month, many of which contain prayer requests and encouraging accounts of God's supernatural intervention. Our staff of thirty-five full-time employees is divided into prayer teams, which continually lift these needs to God.

Also during the last five years, we have earnestly sought God for future direction in three areas: mission, quality, and growth. We have spent many hours in prayer and consultation in these areas.

1. We believe our mission is to produce prophetic teaching materials that proceed from proven sources who have demonstrated the truth of their message. We are not a journal or news service. God has called others to that. We want to publish what we believe God is saying, and base it upon sound biblical exposition. We want **New Wine** to be a timeless product that you will keep as a reference and inspiration.
2. We have done several things to improve the quality of the magazine. First, we have employed skilled, experienced personnel to head each department. These people have a strong, mature commitment to the Lord, and see their task as a calling from God. In addition, we have begun featuring other proven ministries in our publications. I recently met with a group of pastors who expressed their appreciation for our including other ministries. None of us have all the gifts; we need one another. We desire to reflect the cooperation of excellent gifts in both the quality of **New Wine's** message and its appearance.
3. Over the years we have not invested sufficiently in growth. About two years ago the Lord said, "Grow or die." **New Wine** was in danger of being reduced to a small "spiritual club." But that has changed. Within recent months circulation has grown about fifteen percent, and this year we will spend more than \$500,000 above operating costs to continue to increase our circulation through direct mail and advertising. **New Wine**, with God's help, will continue to obey and reach out. We do not believe it is necessary to water down the message to grow. We believe that it is necessary for us to present a worthwhile instrument that God can bless as it tells as many people as possible what the Lord is saying to us.

Integrity Communications

From Charles Simpson, chairman of the board



In addition to our quests for mission, quality, and growth, we are making three adjustments:

1. We have put a price on the magazine. The price is approximately what each issue costs us. Stating the price is necessary for bookstore distribution. However, **subscribers will not have to pay more than the current fifteen-dollar annual subscription cost.** Also, we will continue to give **New Wine** free to those who write and tell us that they cannot afford to pay. Currently we are giving away \$10,000 worth of literature each month. As long as God enables us, we will continue this policy.

Recently, after I shared with a group of **New Wine** readers in a major U.S. city, a woman told us that when she and her husband were out of work, **New Wine** continued their subscription free. She wept as she tried to express what it meant to them in that dark time. Since then, they have prospered and have become not only paid subscribers, but contributors to the ministry.

2. A second adjustment has to do with advertising. For years **New Wine** has carried only ads for our products. We will broaden this policy to include selected quality ads for other ministries and publishers. We believe this is the Lord's direction for us and will go a long way toward making the magazine self-supporting. This adjustment will accomplish three other important objectives: It will help us maintain a low subscription price, direct more contributions toward the ministry of literature distribution, and communicate our recognition of other Christians and their efforts to spread the gospel. Although **New Wine Magazine** has its unique place, we need the variety of ministries that God has set in the Body. Although we will try to be selective, the ads will not mean we endorse everything a particular ministry or publication does.

3. The most exciting change is that we are creating a ministry division. More than 20,000 of you give beyond your subscription cost. You are part of our ministry team. Your gifts over and above subscription costs will continue to put the magazine in Latin America, where we recently had to cut production because of a lack of funds. Your gifts will enable us to put out a European edition, an African edition, and make plans for teaching materials that will go into all the world. There are millions of people receiving Christ who desperately need the kind of teaching that will bring them to the ways of God. I am convinced that international problems of poverty and violence can only be solved by the Word of God.

The ministry division will also get literature into prisons. I have received many testimonies of people in prison who are affected by the literature and tapes that you enable us to send them. Recently, a warden at a federal prison was born again because of the impact of newly converted inmates.

Perhaps the most significant undertaking of the ministry division is the beginning of a radio broadcast this winter. The program will begin in several major cities and focus on the same kind of ministry that comes to you through **New Wine**. With your support, you can help us reach many people through radio who do not yet receive **New Wine** or similar teaching.

This is the biggest step I have ever taken. It will require changes in my schedule and personal responsibilities. But I am convinced that it is the only way to reach many people who need Christ. Please pray with me and the staff about this effort.

To those who contribute beyond the **New Wine** subscription cost, I will send a free bimonthly newsletter that will keep you posted on ministry plans and results of recent ministry, and also offer practical teaching to help you in your ministry.

The plans I have presented are a significant step for us in our walk with the Lord. You have walked with us faithfully—let's walk on together until "the knowledge of the glory of God covers the earth as the waters cover the sea."

Yours in Christ,


Charles V. Simpson

ONE PLUS ONE EQUALS SURVIVAL

An insightful look at why we need each other
by Charles Swindoll

A bewildered foreign-exchange student once blurted out in my presence: "Americans are loners." I was, at first, defensive. His evaluation seemed unduly harsh. But since the time I heard the young man make that statement, I have come to the conclusion that he is correct. There are some wonderful exceptions, but they are only that—exceptions rather than the rule.

I recall hearing a news broadcast in 1983 that included a brief wrap-up comment. The newscaster stated that divorce is on the rise in the Silicon Valley of Northern California. That wasn't surprising to me. What *was* surprising was what the commentator added. He said that many of the mates now alone were not that disturbed by their breakdown in domestic relationships. Why? Because "now they had more time to spend alone... with their computers."

If ol' Rip Van Winkle stumbled onto the scene today after sleeping away the past twenty-five to thirty years, I think he might have a coronary to see how well we relate to green screens and clicking machines, yet how poorly we relate to flesh and blood. We're not only loners, we're also lonely.

Solomon's Advice to Loners

Solomon, with a great deal of honesty and insight, addresses loners. In fact, he speaks to all of us in this section of his journal:

Two are better than one because they have a good return for their labor. For if either of them falls, the one will lift up his companion. But woe to the one who falls when there is not another to lift him up. Furthermore, if two lie down together they keep warm, but how can one be warm alone? And if one can overpower him who is alone, two can resist him. A cord of three strands is not quickly torn apart (Eccles. 4:9-12).

The opening line sets the stage with a statement of fact: "Two are better than one."

If you are married (especially if you are happily married) and read these words, you probably think that this means marriage. But this is for the married or the unmarried. Marriage is never once mentioned in this section. This is for people who are humans in this lonely earth wondering how to survive in our "dog-eat-dog" culture of ragged-edge reality. He says: "Two are better than one [and then he tells us why] because they have a good return for their labor" (v. 9). The Living Bible puts it even more simply, "The results can be much better."

We gain perspective by having somebody at our side. We gain objectivity. We gain courage in threatening situations. Having others near tempers our dogmatism and softens our intolerance. We gain another opinion. We gain what to

day, in our technical world, is called "input."

In other words, it is better not to work or live one's life all alone. It's better not to minister all alone. It's better to have someone alongside us in the battle. For that reason, during my days in the Marines, we were taught that if the command "dig in" were issued, we should dig a hole large enough for two.

Why It Works

After making the statement, Solomon takes the time to spell out why. He mentions three reasons: mutual encouragement when we are weak, mutual support when we are vulnerable, and mutual protection when we are attacked. Let's take them in that order.

1. Mutual Encouragement When We Are Weak.

...if either of them falls, the one will lift up his companion.

In times of personal failure, in times when we would be ensnared, when we could easily stumble or become entrapped (not "if," but "when"), when we fall on our faces, when we have gotten into trouble, we need a companion to keep us from getting too bruised and bloody. And that companion will

continued on page 33

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NEW WINE TAPE



YOUR FIRST TAPE ABSOLUTELY FREE!

We'd like to introduce you to New Wine Tape of the Month by sending your first tape absolutely free. Thereafter you'll pay only \$5 (postage and handling included) for the monthly tapes as you receive them. If you're not

completely satisfied you may cancel at any time with no further obligation and still keep your free tape. This offer expires April 30, 1986. Please allow 4-6 weeks for delivery of your first tape.

OF THE MONTH...

Equipping Christians With Tools for Successful Daily Living

New Wine Tape of the Month

A tape ministry featuring dynamic, practical teaching that will help you to "lay a sure foundation" in your life, and to build on it with godly principles.

Never-Before-Released Messages

Each month New Wine Tape of the Month members receive a new message by one of the regular teachers in *New Wine Magazine*: Don Basham, Ern Baxter, Bob Mumford, and Charles Simpson. You've enjoyed their ministry in *New Wine Magazine*. Now here's an opportunity to receive more of their direct, powerful, and anointed teaching on subjects that will touch important areas of your life.

Timely Topics for Daily Living

Almost miraculously it seems as if each month's topic meets the situation that you're facing right then. We hear this comment from our listeners time after time.

"This month's tape was God's answer to my prayers asking for boldness to take a stand concerning the many issues confronting us today."

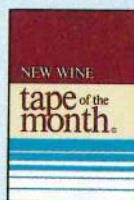
Gloria Schultz
Wausau, WI

Clear Scriptural Direction for the Family

Family life is clearly one of the most challenging topics of concern in today's world. As you try to lead your family into better relationships with each other and with the Lord, you'll need all the help you can get. New Wine Tape of the Month provides that help. You'll find answers for the demands of daily family living, such as husband-wife relationships, the responsibilities of parenting, and how family members can learn to support one another.

Powerful Strategies for Spiritual Warfare

Another vital area of concern for today's Christians is spiritual warfare. Winning the everyday battles against our enemy requires offensive as well as defensive weapons. Tape of the Month equips you with spiritual insights and practical advice to combat the attacks of the enemy and draw you closer to the Lord. You'll learn about the principles of spiritual warfare. You'll understand how to live without guilt. You'll discover strategies to defeat the enemy.



NEW WINE tape of the month

EQUIPPING CHRISTIANS FOR
SUCCESSFUL DAILY LIVING

It's convenient—it's practical—it's powerful!

To receive your free tape and begin receiving New Wine Tape of the Month, send no money. Simply fill out the response card found at page 22, or write to New Wine Tape of the Month, P.O. Box Z, Mobile, AL 36616.



Survival

continued from page 28

not walk away. If one of them falls down, the other can help him up. Isn't that great?

I'd like to address just the men for a few minutes. Many of you were raised, like I was, by well-meaning teachers, parents, and coaches in a masculine world that thought it was doing us a great service by underscoring that we're tough. We are rugged. We win. We can make it. We are pioneer types... survivors... winners... "always on top." We were given counsel from our coaches, like: "Tough it out." "Take it like a man." "Grit your teeth and bear it."

You want the straight scoop? A lot of us tough guys sound strong, but the truth is, we are weak. We sound like we've got it all together, but we don't. Take me. I sound independent, without much need for others, able to hang in there regardless...but that's not always true of me. I come across as a person who doesn't lean that much on someone else, but the lady I married knows how much I need her. Does she ever! And she and I have children who occasionally minister to our needs, as well. My best teachers on earth are five in number. I'm referring to those who bear my name. I also have a small group of men who know me very well. They are trustworthy and confidential guys I really need. Why? Because I am weak and I need their counsel. Furthermore, I occasionally blow it. If you doubt that, take it by faith! I need those men to encourage me and, when necessary, to reprove me.

Solomon put it this way: "If either of them falls, the one will lift up his companion. But woe to the one who falls when there is not [someone there to catch him]."

Who catches you when you fall? No one? Well, no wonder you're lonely! And the strange irony of it all is that getting married doesn't guarantee a solution to loneliness. I talk to people rather often who are married, but who are still lonely. Some marriage partners have a search-and-destroy-the-adversary relationship rather than a support-and-encourage, affirming relationship. It's tragic, yet true, that

some are married to mates who do not lift up their companion. Few woes are more difficult to bear.

2. *Mutual Support When We Are Vulnerable.*

Furthermore, if two lie down together they keep warm, but how can one be warm alone?

Isn't that a good statement? Now, here again, it's our tendency to take passages literally and miss the point of the whole idea.

It's true that married partners who slide in bed together on a cold, windy, wintry night find a great

**It's better to
have two
than one;
the other
person will
support us
when we're
vulnerable.**

deal of warmth from one another. (Of course, some mates are so cold-natured that there's no way sufficient warmth can be generated without an electric blanket on level ten! Or, you may be married to a blanket hog that takes up all of your covers!)

But let's not limit this to bed-time warmth. We need someone when there are elements that we can't change—when we can't make it hot if it's cold. We can't get warm if everything around us is cold. That's the point. We're exposed. We are unguarded. We're vulnerable. And in this vulnerable state, we need somebody to warm us up. To put it another way, it's better to have two than one, because the other person will support us when we're in a vulnerable spot.

Let me mention some vulnerable times just in case you can't

think of some. Let's start with the first day on a new job—isn't that the pits? First day on a new job you feel like all forty pairs of eyes in the office are looking right through you. It's good to have a friend at times like that.

How about if you're sitting in a courtroom, soon to take the witness stand? At such a threatening time, it's good to look out there and see a friendly face. How about waiting in a hospital room, or a dentist's office, or other threatening places like that? How about standing in line at the Department of Unemployment, waiting to pick up your check? Your dignity is lower than a whale's belly. In Solomon's words, you need someone to keep you warm. It's "cold" out there without a job. At times like that, it's great to have a friend.

Any time or place where you feel self-conscious and your major battle is "How am I going to make it through this right now?" be reminded of verse 11—you are cold and you need help in keeping warm. Two are better than one.

3. *Mutual Protection When We Are Attacked.*

And if one can overpower him who is alone, two can resist him. A cord of three strands is not quickly torn apart.

All of us can identify with this. There is an adversary we all fight. He is relentless, determined, and clever. He's also invisible. He's called the devil. There is also an entire demonic force that would intimidate us even more if we could see them at work. But even though we cannot see them, we sense their presence and we are aware of their attack.

Sometimes a companion who is near us is able to say, "I think this is an enemy from Satan's domain. I think what you're wrestling with is a demonic attack." And the companion helps us through those times. I've had it happen in my life and many of you have also. Talk about valuable relationships!

Perhaps the adversary is some other person who has manufactured vicious rumors and is responsible for a pack of lies that is being spread against you. Or it

may be that someone who is suspicious of your motive is out to get you for reasons you don't even understand. Maybe you have become the face on that person's mental dart board. And there is no way through it except enduring it. At such times companions are the next thing to essential. We're back to that all-important equation: One plus one equals survival.

Verse 12 concludes with "A cord of three strands is not quickly torn apart." This is not simply a reference to Christ, who certainly is our Companion—the best of all—it's a reference to more than just one companion. It may be several—two or three. But the thought here is that a cord of three strands is held with comforting words, or arms around the shoulder, or visible presence so that the waters of your soul are calm.

Examples and Principles

If you are like I am, there are times you find it helpful to find in the Bible some flesh-and-blood examples, actual men and women who personify the truth. Such people never fail to provide hope as they incarnate the theory and demonstrate how it can be fleshed out. And with each of these examples I want to add a principle that I think will help make it real in your minds.

The first one I'm thinking of is a prophet who had a double problem. First, he was led by God to stand in front of intimidating rulers and make an unpopular prediction concerning a drought that was to come.

The second problem was to experience pain himself as a result of that drought—because the very prediction caused his own brook to dry up. His name was Elijah.

But before long, he was back on the scene to face the prophets of Baal on Mount Carmel. What an emotional encounter! He fought with fire and he stood alone against their strong words as Jehovah-God made the prophet's words even stronger. The prophets of Baal were ultimately slain in front of him. It must have been an exceptionally draining experience.

Next came an incredible downpour of rain, followed by a threat on

his life from Jezebel. While Elijah was physically weak, emotionally vulnerable, and spiritually depleted, Jezebel attacked and said, "You will die before twenty-four hours have passed." That did it!

Elijah ran to a wooded section. He left his servant and traveled alone deep into the wilderness. He finally slumped down under a tree and asked God to take his life. He was that low. The same strong man who stood alone in front of Ahab and Jezebel was now praying that God would take his life. He was falling—falling fast.



**Companions
calm the
troubled
waters of
our souls.**

What did God do? Well, it's wonderful! He never said, "I'm ashamed of you, Elijah." God never comes on the scene and says, "Straighten up! You're a man!" He never once does that.

You know what He said to the prophet? "You rest for a while; I'm going to bring you a meal." So He catered this delicious meal, and Elijah went in the strength of it forty days and forty nights.

On top of that, following the long rest and the nourishment from this delicious meal, Elijah came to terms with himself and God. And in the very next scene, guess what happened. God gave Elijah a friend. His name was Elisha.

In fact, the last verse of 1 Kings 19 says Elisha followed Elijah and ministered to him. It's a great scene. Elijah sees him, realizes what a bond of kinship there was between them, and he throws his mantle around Elisha as if to say, "We're in this together, my friend. We're going together from now on." And there's renewed strength as Elijah survives, thanks to the presence of a companion. In fact, he steps into a whole new vision of God's directives for him. In the words of Solomon, "If one can overpower him who is alone, two can resist him."

Principle 1: Companions calm the troubled waters of our souls. There are times your soul will be troubled. There are times you will entertain thoughts that five years ago would have been heretical. You may even contemplate suicide—"God, take my life!" There are times that you will have to face the fact that you are in this terrible situation because of wrong actions or foolish things you have done. You are at fault, which damages your self-esteem even further. Your troubled soul won't calm down. You need help. And God graciously steps on the scene and provides you with a friend. Companions calm the troubled waters of our souls...as Elisha did for troubled Elijah.

Naomi and Ruth

There's another Old Testament scene that comes to my mind. It is a scene revolving around two women, Naomi and Ruth. Naomi was a

godly woman, a wife and mother of two sons. By the time the print is dry in the book of Ruth, chapter 1, the sons are grown and married. And the biographer tells about these lovely daughters-in-law (one of whom is Ruth) who married Naomi's two sons.

Suddenly, for some unrevealed reason, a calamity struck the home of Naomi. She not only lost her husband—her two sons also died. Naomi was more than a grief-stricken widow. Adding to her pain was the tragic loss of her two grown sons.

In this vulnerable state, Naomi graciously said to her two daughters-in-law, "Why don't you go back to your homes and start over?" There was also the strong implication in Naomi's words that she planned to go back to her home. Broken, lonely, and fragmented in her spirit, she would attempt to put the pieces of her life together and simply die a quiet death.

But Ruth wouldn't let her do it. It's a great story! Ruth said to her mother-in-law/friend:

"Don't urge me to leave you or to turn back from you. Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God. Where you die I will die, and there I will be buried. May the Lord deal with me, be it ever so severely, if anything but death separates you and me" (Ruth 1:16, NIV).

It's a great speech! And Naomi's daughter-in-law put her arms around her dear mother-in-law and loved her back to dignity and life.

Principle 2: Companions build bridges of hope and reassurance when we are vulnerable, exposed, and self-conscious.

David and Jonathan

I can't omit two final examples—David and Jonathan. There once lived a king who began as a good man, humble and available, yet after a few years in public office, he lost his quality. His name was Saul. As he led Israel's army in battle, Saul and his troops faced Goliath, the Philistine giant. And Saul was intimidated. Even though

he was strong and tall (though not nearly as tall as Goliath), Saul shrank in his tent and shook with fear.

Out of the hills of Judea there came a teen-aged boy who with only a sling and a stone, put the giant out of commission. Following that heroic act, the people began to sing, "Saul the king has slain his thousands and David his ten thousands."

Now Saul, insecure as he was, figured up the difference, and it was more than nine thousand in David's favor. He felt his position



**Companions
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reassurance
when we
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conscious.**

was threatened by young David. And he allowed himself to become a victim of all kinds of imaginations. How wicked imaginations can be when we're insecure and unstable! Instead of encouraging David as a fine young warrior—an asset to his army—he viewed him as an enemy.

He could have trained and tutored David and prepared him for the throne, but he wouldn't. He could have honored David and promoted him to a position of leadership, but he didn't. He made David the target of his hostilities. He hunted and haunted David. And David, the once-brave giant killer, came to the end of his emotional rope. He couldn't handle it, so he ran for his life, literally.

Meanwhile, along came Jonathan, Saul's son. The Scripture says, "Jonathan loved David as his own soul." One paraphrase adds, "He gave him dignity and reassurance." Again and again Jonathan strengthened his friend David.

Principle 3: Companions take our part when others take us apart. When we have nowhere else to turn, when the adversary is bearing down on us with verbal spears and swords of slander, there's nothing like a companion to get us through.

And that brings us back to Solomon's excellent counsel:

Two are better off than one, because together they can work more effectively. If one of them falls down, the other can help him up. But if someone is alone and falls, it's just too bad, because there is no one to help him. If it is cold, two can sleep together and stay warm, but how can you keep warm by yourself? (Eccles. 4:9-12, TEV). □



Charles R. Swindoll is the author of fourteen books, including Strengthening Your Grip and Improving Your Serve, and the film People of Refuge, and has a daily radio broadcast, Insight for Living, that is aired worldwide. He is senior pastor of First Evangelical Free Church of Fullerton, California, where he resides with his wife, Cynthia, and their family.

When we let our theology get in the way

Some People Are Funny That Way

by Don Basham

Sometimes it's amazing the lengths Christians will go to in their determination to defend their theologies (read that "prejudices"). I have been in the deliverance ministry—the ministry of casting out demons—for almost twenty years, and have had the privilege of seeing the Holy Spirit set free literally thousands of tormented believers. It is a ministry authorized by Scripture, widely accepted in the charismatic renewal, and one that has found favor in churches of almost every denomination.

Yet there are millions of devoted Christians, theologians, ministers, Bible teachers, and laymen alike who fiercely argue that deliverance is not for today, and besides, they say, Christians can't have demons! Oh, demons can harass Christians, they can attack Christians, and they can even be on Christians, but demons cannot be in Christians!

At a leadership retreat last year, two outstanding men of God from religious traditions that reject deliverance of Christians came to the retreat in great personal need. Both were being severely harassed by the devil, and both asked for prayer. A young evangelist who was experienced in casting out demons was asked to pray for them. He prayed for the first man, rebuking Satan and commanding the evil spirits tormenting him to depart. Acknowledging the immediate relief he received, the man simply ignored his theology and humbly expressed his gratitude.

The second man then knelt before the evangelist for prayer. Again Satan was rebuked and the tormenting spirits were commanded to leave, and again relief was evident. But as the grateful theologian rose from his knees, his theological prejudice reasserted itself. "Remember," he said, "those demons were on, not in!"

The evangelist smiled and said, "All right, you demons, come out or come off—whichever!"

Later, I expressed my gratitude to him for the tact and humor he used in handling the situation. I laughed and said, "You may be entering a whole new phase of ministry: casting off demons in the name of Jesus!"

The problem some people have accepting the idea that Christians can have demons stems from the habit of referring to Spirit-baptized believers as Spirit-filled believers. If we were Spirit filled all the time, there would never be any room for an evil spirit. But Spirit baptized does not necessarily mean Spirit filled. As one who has received the baptism in the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues, I can truthfully say, "I am a Spirit-baptized believer." But I cannot truthfully say that I am always a Spirit-filled believer. Anytime I become angry or impatient or slothful or critical, I can lay no claim to being filled with the Holy Spirit.

Someone has wisely suggested, "If you want to know if you're really filled with the Holy Spirit, check to see what spills over when you're

jostled." If we are really full of the Holy Spirit, when someone says something mean and nasty to us, we will automatically say something like, "Oh, praise God! I was just hoping the Lord would send me someone to pray for, and He sent you. God bless you!" But if what sloshes over is a furious, "Just who do you think you are, talking to me like that?" then we may be Spirit baptized but certainly aren't Spirit filled—at least, not all the time.

Acts 2:4 tells how the disciples were all "filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues" (NIV). Later in Acts 4:31, they were all "filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly" (NIV). If they were "filled" in Acts chapter 2, why did they need to be "filled" again in Acts chapter 4?

Someone once asked the great evangelist D.L. Moody why he was filled with the Holy Spirit so many times.

He responded, "The answer is simple; I leak!"

And so do we all. At least, that's the way I see it. □



Don Basham is chief editorial consultant for New Wine.

**INTEGRITY
COMMUNICATIONS
PRESENTS...**

AN EVENING OF MINISTRY WITH CHARLES SIMPSON



"Early in 1985, God told me to visit a number of cities and minister to those of you who receive *New Wine Magazine* and our other publications. I felt God had directed me to do three things: (1) meet with you face-to-face; (2) let you know what we're doing; and (3) pray for you and minister to your needs. These meetings have been a tremendous success."

Charles Simpson

The power of God is in these meetings

"Brother Charles, I just wanted to thank you for your prayer for me when you visited Memphis in June. You began praying and then stopped and said you felt God wanted to touch me in a physical way. As you prayed, my right leg tingled and shook for several minutes. The morning after the meeting, I looked at my ankle and the protrusion that I had since high school was gone! Since then I have walked a long distance and my ankle never throbbed a bit! God gave me a blessing I never even asked for! I want to thank you for your sensitivity to God's leading."

Donna Davis



"Thank you for the special meetings with Charles Simpson here in Cleveland. The face-to-face encounter helps us to know all of you better and creates a clearer channel for communication. The information that Brother Charles shared about all that you are doing is helpful. The word he spoke, and the power that accompanied it, was the greatest blessing of all. Thank you and thank the Lord."

Robert Ulrich

A time of worship in God's presence


Gerrit and Himmie Gustafson, well-known songwriters and worship leaders, will provide special music and lead worship. There is no registration or admission charge—a freewill offering will be received.



BE WITH CHARLES SIMPSON IN FEBRUARY

DALLAS/FORT WORTH	SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
February 21, 1986 7:30 P.M. Loews Anatole Hotel 2201 Stemmons Dallas, TX	February 22, 1986 7:30 P.M. Alicante Princess Hotel 11891 Harbor Blvd. Garden Grove, CA

R.S.V.P.—LET US KNOW YOU'RE COMING AND FEEL FREE TO BRING A FRIEND. SPACE IS LIMITED, SO PLEASE REPLY BY FEBRUARY 10. JUST FILL OUT THE POSTPAID CARD NEXT TO PAGE 14.

A woman with curly brown hair, wearing a white sweater with red and blue horizontal stripes and light purple pants, stands in a kitchen. She is smiling and looking upwards. In front of her is a large stainless steel mixing bowl on a white countertop. She is holding a white spatula and stirring the bowl. To her right is a black stereo system with a cassette player and two speakers. In the background, there are wooden kitchen cabinets, a window with blue curtains, and a potted plant.

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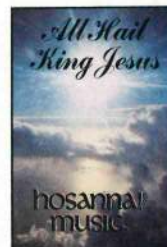
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