



THE GOOD NEWS



The Chic Shaver Center for Evangelism Newsletter March 2021

LIVING IN THE BLESSING **365 Daily Devotionals to Guide You** **to Live in the Blessing**

This is the projected title of Dr. Shaver's new book.

Don't Just Stand There—Walk!

(This is one of the devotionals in Dr. Shaver's new book.)

"But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin." I John 1:7

Would you consider buying a fancy new car, bringing it home, parking in your garage, and then just letting it sit there? You brag to your friend, "I've got a beautiful new car!" but you never drive it. Drive it, drive it! That's what a car is for. Drive it!

Some seem to treat Christianity that way. They accept Christ in a moment, even tell others about it. But then, that relationship just stands there, and they do nothing. John says, "Don't just stand there—walk. Walk in the light." You are to be living a dynamic relationship with a living Lord.

Light is any truth God is showing you. It reveals Himself, exposes sin, produces warmth, growth, purity, righteousness, holiness. A Christian college student couldn't keep any glow in his experience with God. God's Spirit shined some light into his mind and reminded him he had sold Bibles to pay his way through school but had never sent the last payment in to the company. He confessed to God, sent the payment in, and began walking in peace, joy, and victory.

This walking calls for heart honesty. If we claim to be without sin when we have it, we deceive ourselves. I've heard it: "We're really Christian kids—a little goof off, a little booze, a little drugs, a little sex—but that's not the real me. I'm really good at heart." Deceit!

How complete the result of this walking—"purifies from all sin." Don't dilute it. Constant, joyous walking in light. He makes us pure, keeps us pure, keeps purifying us, cleanses us whenever there is a need—if we walk in the light.

What should you do if you fall into sin? Well, how long ago did that happen—two seconds, or two weeks? The little boy asked the old man, "Will falling in the water drown you?" "No," the old man said, "it's staying there." If you sin, take it immediately to God in prayer and confession.

Charles had been raised in a Christian home, but in adult life got careless. He felt he had to take his boat to his cottage on weekends, and he kept his girls out of church long enough that they adopted that as their lifestyle. He admitted he didn't really believe in answers to prayer. You just go to the altar once, and from then on just try to live a good life. But last week he got the confirmation of his kidney disease and upcoming surgery.

He told me, "I've been doing a lot of praying. I gave God my boat, my cottage, my weekend, me. Finally, He saved me, and God is real. I've experienced temporary healing, I've been able to attend the week of revival, my friend Eugene was saved Wednesday, Sunday morning Fred was reclaimed, and I'm ready to go to the hospital. I've seen more answers to prayer this week than all my past life."

Yes, Charles, Christianity is a life, not just a moment. So, get the word out—"Don't just stand there—walk!"

Why the Church Needs CSCE

When we began the Chic Shaver Center for Evangelism in 1992, we had two basic goals:

1. To give me assistance in preparing for and conducting my Revivals, my teaching responsibilities at Nazarene Seminary, and my associate pastoral responsibilities at Kansas City First Church of the Nazarene.
2. To publish and promote the desperately needed emphases for the churches—Witness, Evangelism, Holiness, and Revival

People began praying for us and giving to support this work. Our primary communication became a quarterly newsletter called The Good News. This has had significant impact on people and goes to 1600 families of leaders and clergy hardcopy and overseas to others by email and website. Case witness of people newly converted and transformed and people sanctified through and through and living in the Spirit-filled life were prominent. A denominational leader had once said to me regarding sanctification, "We need a lot of fresh case history."

At one time I told my children that when I died, they could let the Evangelism Center disappear. However, as time went on and people repeatedly responded to the newsletter telling how they were helped, inspired, finding spiritual victories through articles, my mind changed. I now believe the Center and its newsletter must continue. I am convinced the "churches need CSCE" and its message,

Witness, Evangelism, Holiness, and Revival. When I announced 2020 would be my last year to hold revivals, three people told me they were considering stopping their financial support because I had completed my revivals. I explained we still needed their support because, though this one element of my ministry was ending, the broader ministry of Evangelism Center was to continue and even grow. Please consider these facts:

1. The center will continue to promote Witness, Evangelism Holiness, and Revival.
2. Dr. Scott Rainey, a powerful and Spirit-anointed leader, has joined me in 2019 as Co-Executive Director. We shall work together as a team. Upon my death, Scott Rainey will resume full leadership.
3. I will continue writing articles for the newsletter and being a witness for Jesus.
4. I have recruited Ten Great Younger Leaders who believe in the emphasis of the Center and who will promote these causes in their ministries, Witness, Evangelism, Holiness, and Revival, now and after my death.
5. I am continuing to complete a devotional book, which I think will be titled Living in the Blessing. This book explains sanctification in an understandable way to the ordinary everyday person. I have experienced an unusual anointing in writing this book. My hope is for release by the end of 2021.

I am extremely thankful for many who are praying for me and the Evangelism Center. Thank you for numerous messages of encouragement to Nancy and me. Thanks to those who have given financial support to make this work possible. You've had a part in all these victories. If you believe we need to maintain the emphasis on Witness, Evangelism, Holiness, Revival, please continue your prayers and gifts. I survived a case of COVID-19 in November, I celebrated my 86th birthday on January 5th, my energy level is strong for my age, and I am going all out for Jesus. These days, the Lord has been remarkably near. I am having the richest spiritual days of my life. Neither Scott nor I receive pay from the Evangelism Center. The center does reimburse us for certain expenses we incur, all appropriately related to the Center. Gifts to the Center are tax-deductible and operate as a ministry under K.C. First Church of the Nazarene, who will provide you a yearly record of your donations.

For Christ and The Lost,
Dr. Chic Shaver

Holiness Preaching at Its Best!

In the fall of 2020, in the middle of the pandemic, Dr. Shaver preached a series of messages on holiness in Indianapolis, Indiana. The host church kindly recorded these messages. The SDMI office of the Global Ministry Center has uploaded them for people to view. This resource would be great to share with your pastor, pastors in training, friends, and family...

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/zwmxn3ik4d0ryyu/AAAQ9WNqGiq0-5e5fhGetUqra?dl=0>

Let's all be a part of sharing the biblical message of heart holiness!

Because You Gave We Gave

- Evangelism Scholarship fund to Nazarene Theological Seminary
- Basic Bible Studies given to an inner-city church
- Discipleship materials given to Francis Asbury Society
- Over 70 Devotional booklets were given away
- Prayer materials given to leaders
- 20 Basic Bible Studies provided for Florida pastors

Wesley on Holiness

*From his sermon "Circumcision of the Heart,"
preached January 1, 1773*

It is that habitual disposition of the soul which, in the sacred writings, is termed holiness; and which directly implies, the being cleansed from sin, "from all filthiness both of flesh and spirit;" and, by consequence, the being endued with those virtues which were also in Christ Jesus; the being so "renewed in the image of our mind," as to be "perfect as our Father in heaven is perfect."... "Love is the fulfilling of the law, the end of the commandment."

(Wesley used the word "perfect" as understood in "perfect love.")

- The Works of John Wesley
(Kansas City MO: Nazarene Publishing House, n.d.) XI, 367

\$7,400

In our December newsletter, we made a rare appeal for finances—asking for gifts to meet \$7,400 in end-of-year expenses for CSCE. I prayed very specifically about this amount, and by the grace of God, was enabled to have faith for an answer. I decided then to list and date gifts as they came in. From December 12th to January 2nd twenty-five people from across the country contributed \$5,840.

I held the matter before the Lord again on January 4th. On Thursday, January 5th, a man came to my front door and handed me a check for \$1,600. That brought the total to \$7,440. Praise God! Thank you, CSCE supporters.

- Chic Shaver

Contributions Were Made in Memory Of:

Richard Bond	Kim Rowley
Max Brammer	Paul Sanford
Jerry Brooks	Emily Shelp
Dr. Paul Cunningham	Vernon & Doris Smith
Lyle Curtis	Barbra "Ann" Stubbs
Donald Gibson	(By daughter Stephanie J. Stubbs)
Richard Jarvis	Darren Tehven
John Krupcale	John Van Dyne
Velma Pittman	Jennie Wood

Influence and Disciple-Making

I remember the day Dr. Shaver first called me by telephone in the summer of 1998. I was serving as an associate pastor in discipleship at Fort Wayne, Indiana, Lake Avenue Church of the Nazarene. Dr. Shaver had heard of my desire to attend seminary and wanted to be sure I was considering Nazarene Theological Seminary (NTS). He shared of a specialized track in evangelism offered at NTS. I was interested. He shared of a scholarship for students committed to evangelism. I was still listening. Finally, he invited me to come alongside him in ministry, as his assistant, at Kansas City First Church of the Nazarene. I was committed!

Those three years at NTS, working alongside Dr. Shaver, were formative years in my life. Dr. Shaver became more than a boss to me. He became one of my closest friends, someone I admired for his relentless focus on reaching the lost and training others to do the same, and someone who became a lifetime mentor to me.

Dr. Shaver has played a significant role in my life. His homework assignment in an evangelism class in 1973 led to my family visiting the Church of the Nazarene for the first time. On that first visit when I was two years old, my parents repented of their sins and trusted Jesus as their Savior. Dr. Shaver's phone call in 1998 was a key moment in my life as I moved with my wife to Kansas City to attend seminary. Still again, Dr. Shaver's recommendation of me in 2003 to the church board of Houston, Texas, Spring Branch Church of the Nazarene, opened the door for my first lead pastor responsibility. In 2011, I leaned closely to Dr. Shaver as my family sensed God calling us to serve as missionaries in the former Soviet Union. Then, in 2018, Dr. Shaver was there to help me pray about returning to the States to serve as Global Director of Sunday School & Discipleship Ministries, International (SDMI).

In my responsibilities as Global Director of SDMI at the Global Ministry Center in Lenexa, Kansas, I serve to advance the cause of making Christlike disciples who make Christlike disciples, to articulate the philosophy of Christian education, and to champion an evangelistic heart and ministries to reach the lost. I work with a small team who live in the Kansas City area, but I collaborate with ministry leaders around the world. My first major task in SDMI was to work with a Nazarene Discipleship Design Team to develop a clear, comprehensive, and compelling vision for Nazarene Discipleship within the Wesleyan-Holiness tradition.

On February 27, 2021, the Board of General Superintendents launched this new paradigm for Nazarene Discipleship at the General Board meetings. The new framework describes Nazarene Discipleship as "A Journey of Grace." As Wesleyan-Holiness people, we believe that God's gracious love extends to all people, everywhere, even before we come to believe. In John 6:44, Jesus said, "No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws them, and I will raise them up at the last day." The Apostle Paul stated it this way in Romans 5:8, "But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." God was wooing you and me by his grace, awakening us to our need for Him. We call this the **prevenient grace** of God.

As we experience the prevenient grace of God, we come to realize who Jesus is. This realization of Christ as the Son of God and Savior of the world demands a response from us. The **saving grace** of God enables people to repent of sin and trust Jesus as Lord. In that crisis moment, a person is forgiven for their sin, adopted into the family of God, and made new and alive in Jesus!

The journey doesn't stop there! As God's Spirit begins to sanctify the heart and life of the new believer, the Christian begins to discover an indwelling selfishness that is felt as an inward leaning toward sin. Only through God's **sanctifying grace** can one experience the abundant life God intends His children to live. In a second crisis moment, a believer can surrender their redeemed life to God and be entirely sanctified. The internal bent toward sin becomes an internal bent toward God.

Discipleship is a journey of grace: from prevenient grace through saving grace through sanctifying grace! The journey of grace is a process with crises along the journey itself. It is a journey we all

take. As we grow in the grace of God, God calls us to journey with others from grace to grace to grace. We call this disciple-making, the call of the Great Commission. If we are to make Christlike disciples, we must commit ourselves to the task of reaching the lost, establishing new believers, and teaching people to obey everything Jesus commands!

In the last several months, we have been preparing to launch this new concept. Holiness Today, the Church of the Nazarene's bi-monthly magazine, has had three consecutive editions on prevenient grace (September/October 2020), saving grace (November/December 2020), and sanctifying grace (January/February 2021), respectively. With the release of each of these three magazines, SDMI has held a panel discussion via webinar. In the final webinar, on entire sanctification, I sensed God leading me to give the listeners an opportunity to respond to the grace of God in full surrender and His sanctifying work. Following the webinar, twenty-two people reported they prayed to be entirely sanctified in the webinar! Praise the name of Jesus!

Coming alongside Dr. Chic Shaver as co-director of the Chic Shaver Center for Evangelism (CSCE) is a great privilege in my life. Our common passion for evangelism, witness, revival, and holiness makes the partnership very natural and seamless. I am excited for the days ahead as we continue to champion these important pillars of God's church!

- Scott Rainey

Pray for Stan Reeder

Dr. Stan Reeder has been elected to be the USA/Canada Regional Director for the Church of the Nazarene. Formerly, he has been a pastor and district superintendent. Let's surround him with our prayers in this crucial assignment. His duties began February 1. Recently, he sent me a very encouraging message: "I've always been thankful for your heart for evangelism and discipleship. I've used your basic Bible studies for salvation and sanctification throughout my ministry with hundreds of folks."

Pastors, Leaders, Key Lay people—be sure you take advantage of these studies with people you are discipling. They are **Basic Bible Studies for the New and Growing Christian**, Code VE80, and **Basic Bible studies for the Spirit-filled and Sanctified Life**, Code VE91. These are available from The Foundry Publishing, 1-800-877-0700, or orders@thefoundrypublishing.com.

I Believe

"But You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and the ends of the earth." Acts 1:8.

Four great issues have been impressed on my heart repeatedly by the Spirit of God over the last ten years. They are Witness, Evangelism, Revival, and Holiness. These I believe in:

Witness - It is the privilege and responsibility of each Christian to share with others what Christ has done in his or her life (Acts 1:8).

Evangelism - Since the Biblical meaning of evangelize is to "tell Good News," both as individual Christians and preachers, we must share the facts of the Gospel and seek to persuade people to accept Christ, as Peter in Acts 2:38 and Paul in II Corinthians 5:11, 20.

Revival - Since it is a human characteristic to need renewal in all realms of life - physical, mental, social and spiritual, it is the responsibility of the church to promote revivals - a concentrated series of Gospel meetings to call people to commitment. In addition, prayer is to be made for revival as a great spiritual movement that will sweep large numbers of people into the Kingdom, as in Acts 4:4 the Hebrides Revival (1949-52), and the Asbury Awakening (1970).

Holiness - Since there is a deeper level of Christian life beyond the new birth, we must endeavor to lead people into the Spirit-filled and Spirit-led life (Galatians 5:25), which begins with entire sanctification (I Thessalonians 5:23-24 and I Peter 1:2) and grows in grace to a life of rich fulfillment and adventure for God (II Peter 3:18).

I believe! Do you? -

-Adaption from December 2017 "Good News"

CHIC SHAVER'S UPCOMING MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Completion of the devotional book **Living in the Blessing**

CSCE CONTACT INFORMATION

Chic Shaver Center for Evangelism, 12718 High Dr., Leawood, KS 66209

Dr. Chic Shaver, Co-Executive Director, (913) 491-5021

Dr. Shaver's cell #: (913) 634-6560, Email: drchicshaver@aol.com

Dr. Scott Rainey, Co-Executive Director

Dr. Rainey's: (913) 577-2801, Email: srainey@nazarene.org

Margo Manning, Managing Director

VISIT US at: www.drchicshaver.com

***Our financial commitment to you:** The CSCE pledges integrity in gift management and financial accountability. We are committed to honorable stewardship of the money God has given us to do the work of evangelism. We are a **faith ministry** and depend wholly upon God to supply our needs through the sensitivity and obedience of His people. All contributions to CSCE are 100% tax deductible. As a ministry under K.C. First Church of the Nazarene, you will receive a yearly record of your donations from the church.*