



THE GOOD NEWS



The Ohio Shaver Center for Evangelism Newsletter September 2014

A Devotional Book on Holiness??

For some time I have felt lead to write a daily devotional book on holiness, sanctification, and the Spirit-filled life. It would be both Biblical and practical. It would include the stories of real live people and lessons learned in my own life. The devotional, written in understandable language, would promote personal change. Please enjoy this sample story from this work in progress.

Under Pressure

"Your name will no longer be Jacob, but Israel, because you have struggled with God and with men and have overcome." Genesis 32:28

Have you ever felt "the pressure"? Jacob did.

Sneaky - dishonest - deceptive - so much of his early life was so filled. Born, grasping his twin brother's heel, he was named Jacob, meaning "heel grasper" or figuratively "deceiver" (Genesis 25:26)†. As a young adult, he sells his famished and careless brother, Esau, a bowl of beans for the brother's birthright which included the biggest portion of the inheritance. Later when his father Isaac is old and blind, Jacob and his mother scheme and trick the father into giving Esau's intended blessing to Jacob. Angry Esau exclaims, "Isn't he rightly named Jacob? He had deceived me these two times: He took my birthright and now he's taken my blessing!" Holding a grudge against Jacob, he threatens to murder him. Jacob flees. To this point, though Isaac pronounced blessings on Jacob, there is no indication of Jacob having a personal relationship with God. Under the pressure of threat he stops for the night at Bethel. There God reveals himself to Jacob and says, "I am with you". For the first time - a relationship. Arriving in Paddan Aram, he gains two wives by working fourteen years for their father Laban.

Eventually Laban's treatment of Jacob and his family becomes so harsh, Jacob determines to take his wives, children, flocks back home. Laban pursues him and finally they reach a settlement. Now almost to home country, he has to face his brother Esau who has threatened murder. All night at Peniel he wrestles with God determined to be blessed, and God goes to the deep part of his heart, and God changes his name from "Jacob" to "Israel", meaning "he struggles with God".

The change of name means a change in character. Now Israel and Esau reunite in forgiveness and love. He becomes the spiritual leader of his family. He becomes the father of the twelve tribes of Israel.

Israel's two great experiences with God are symbolic of our spiritual journeys today. First one accepts Christ, comes into relation with God. Later, God probes to the deepest levels of the heart and reveals a self centeredness that needs cleansing and calls for full surrender. And the pressure of circumstances often bring us to that place.

Yes, pressure! And in our day!

Dick Fields went to work at Nazarene Publishing House as a very young man. He was a follower of Christ, but part of his job posed difficulty and pressure for him. Back then the huge printing presses pulled the paper through the press by means of a fabric. Sometimes the fabric would tear. Dick

MINISTRY UPDATE		
City	TOTAL ATT.	SEEKERS
Harris Chapel		
Church of the Nazarene Selma, IN	141	-
Leavenworth, KS		
Detention Center	79	74
Church of God (Holiness)		
General Convention Overland Park, KS	95	-
The Ridge		
Lenexa, KS		
Living in the Power of the Spirit	8	-
St. Paul's Church of the Nazarene		
Kansas City, MO	29	-
Living in the Power of the Spirit		
First Church of the Nazarene		
KC, MO	12 ea Thurs	-
Living in the Power of the Spirit July 10-Aug 28		
First Church of the Nazarene		
KC, MO	54 per Sunday avg	
Disciples SS Class June 29-Aug 31—each Sunday		

would have to crawl under the press, lie on his back in dirt and debris, sew the fabric together while oil dripped on his body. He said, "I don't want to do this the rest of my life!" Then he paused, "Lord, if you want me to do this the rest of my life, I will". Dick said, "I believe that's the time God sanctified me." He went on to work 54 years for Nazarene Publishing House, eventually as Production Manager. His work sent Christian literature to millions. Under pressure, under the presses, under the oil, his full surrender to God brought a sanctifying presence to his character. At his funeral Dick Fields was described:

- * Contagious Warmth
- * Dignity, attentiveness, loyalty
- * A long obedience in a safe direction
- * A former pastor said, "In 23 years I've never seen him waver from Christlikeness"
- * And again, "God gave us Dick Fields so you could know what God was like."

Would you allow the pressure you face to urge you to seek God with all your heart until He changes your name, changes your character, changes your heart, changes your plans, changes your future?

† The story of Jacob - Israel can be read in Genesis, chapters 25-35. *Chic Shaver*

Can God Work in Prison?

Do you still believe in revivals?... I certainly do. Wait until you hear what happened at our last revival at the prison. It was one of the most awesome "Spring Revivals" we have ever had at the Corrections Corporations of America (also known as the Leavenworth Detention Center). It was in Leavenworth, KS on June 2, 2014.

Our guest speaker was Dr. Chic Shaver who came into the facility to preach to the men and women of CCA. Dr. Shaver preached once for the females and two different services for the males. All that attended were eager and ready for God's touch on their lives.

Dr. Shaver has held several revivals at CCA Leavenworth, over the past several years. He preached his updated message of "My Heart Christ's Home" to all three of the meetings. There were 79 inmates total that attended with 74 of those who made a decision to follow Christ or received total Sanctification. The five remaining inmates had already made a profession before.

Who said God can't work in the prisons?.....

"In His Service" Ministries, Inc
Chaplain Suzie Crocker

Gifts to CSCE

In Memory of: Richard Milton
Ken & Marie Sanford
David Gibson

David Gibson

I considered him a good friend. Among his many deeds of kindness for me and others, he regularly had a major part in preparing the mailing of the Chic Shaver Center for Evangelism newsletter to you and nearly 1500 others who receive this newsletter each quarter. JoAnn Gibson, David's wife, has been the effective Managing Director of the Evangelism Center since 2003. For over seventeen years she prayed for David's conversion. After David and JoAnn hosted a Sunday School class party at their home, David was impressed with "so many genuine people". He began attending Sunday School and church. On December 2, 2004, after three men shared Christ with him around his kitchen table, he received the Lord. Faithfully he progressed thru Basic Bible Studies with his mentor, Dr. Bruce Taylor. On May 13, 2005, he was baptized by immersion at First Church of the Nazarene. He increasingly became involved in the life of the Church. On May 2, 2014, while at work, he passed away from a massive coronary.

Thank God for saving grace. Thank you, David Gibson, for your life, love, kindness to others, and service to the Evangelism Center We remember you well!

Chic Shaver

Quietly

...He drew near, after the passing of my husband, in a time when I thought nothing outside of pain and grief could ever exist, and became such a presence in my life that I celebrate! **Every day** has revealed a new blessing, a new opportunity to witness, a new source of comfort, a sense of balance, and such an influx of love and encouragement, that I am filled to overflowing. 'God has been—so very good to me!'
-JoAnn Gibson

What "Living in the Power of the Spirit" is Doing at St. Paul's Church of the Nazarene

As of this writing our congregation is in its seventh week of the study Living in the Power of the Spirit. We've been doing this on Sunday evenings and we have had thirty-two individuals participate in the course of our study.

Some Holy Spirit led outcomes of this study include one family finding healing and reconciliation with one another after years of family hurt. Another praise is a very clear understanding of the cleansing work of the Holy Spirit and empowering work of the Holy Spirit to live a life of holiness and righteousness. In addition, the way we structure our session around round tables and the balance of large group/small group interaction has been exciting to see - people just really digging into the Word of God and expressing areas of vulnerabilities and needs in their spiritual journey. To me as a pastor, this encapsulates, Bonhoeffer's statement that "there cannot be true community without confession."

Finally, it's been fun to be engaged in something so exciting that we run over our allotted time and people are disappointed that we have to go home! I really love that. Thanks Chic and NPH for still making this study available to local churches.

Rev. Matthew Zimmer
Pastor - St. Paul's Church of the Nazarene

Beyond St. Paul's,

- Seven men are studying Living in the Power of the Spirit at the Ridge Church, a church plant in Lenexa, KS.
- Grandview, Washington Church of the Nazarene reports eighteen in this study.
- Twelve people are growing through this study at First Church of the Nazarene, Kansas City, MO.

Because You Gave, We Gave

- Discipleship materials to an inner city church plant.
- Discipleship materials to leaders and pastors in Missouri, North Carolina, Alabama, Mississippi, Florida, Ohio, Indiana, Kansas.
- Twenty CDs of Nancy Shaver's emotional healing story to a church in Indiana
- 200 pictures of "Jesus Knocking" to a Leavenworth, KS prison ministry.
- 50 Basic Bible Studies and 10 Conserve the Converts to Siteki, Swaziland

Thank You-Evangelism Scholarship

My name is Debbie Whiting, and I am a recipient of the Evangelism Scholarship, for which I am grateful.

Thank you for the wonderful scholarship offer, it is a blessing to my husband and me. This is my final year at NTS before I graduate with my MDiv. God has called me to serve in cross-cultural ministry, and I look forward to seeing how God will continue to use me. I have a desire to help others learn and know Scripture so that God may transform their lives as they encounter God....

The Saga of Basic Bible Studies

Beacon Hill Press reported that as of March, 2014, the sale of Basic Bible Studies for New and Growing Christians has exceeded 710,000 in English. This includes the youth version and English as a second language version as well.

Basic Bible Studies for the Spirit Filled and Sanctified Life has sold over 2,700 in the last eighteen months.

Jolene Chung recently wrote these words about the children's version of Basic Bible Studies:

I am writing to let you know that our older son Josiah (age 9) has made a public declaration for Jesus as he was baptized last weekend. We are extremely blessed to have Asa lead him through the Now That I'm a Christian, Basic Bible Studies for Children which you gave us a copy of when Josiah was born.

A church in Fort Worth, Texas that runs over 200 a Sunday in morning worship attendance is reaching many new people. They incorporate a time in their worship service to lead people through Basic Bible Studies for New and Growing Christians. After completing that eight week series, they are now going through Basic Bible Studies for the Spirit-Filled and Sanctified Life with their congregation.

The enclosed brochure from Beacon Hill Press explains The Journey—a one year discipleship experience in manageable segments in which you can plug in your people at whatever their appropriate stage. Do you have a Biblical discipleship strategy in your local church?

Sabrina

- She was saved in March, 2013, in a revival with Nelson Perdue.
- She was sanctified in April, 2013, in a teaching session on sanctification with Dr. Chic Shaver.
- She experienced emotional healing in a revival, October, 2013, with Jim Diehl.
- Recently she testified of her change since sanctification: "My heart, my language, my body language is not the same".
- Now under stressful circumstance, "My response was one of love and understanding".
- "My own brother began going to church when he saw the change in me". He and his wife have both been saved.

Funerals

Since May, I have conducted funerals for three men who died in the faith:

David Gibson
Tom Pinkerton
Les Farris

Les' daughter, Tracy Eason, wrote me these words:

I cannot thank you enough for your involvement in my dad's life; brief as it was, the impact was profound to both him and our family! I have prayed many times that my dad have the assurance and peace of Jesus in his heart and now I am sure of it.

Chic Shaver

The Influence Goes On

Chaplain David Sparks, Air Force Mortuary Affairs, Dover, DE.: "You had a significant impact on my seminary days, on my spiritual formation, and on my ministry for 40 years.... In this environment I use the evangelism principles you taught every day."

Rick & Linda Day, Directors of Nazarene Well House near Mayo Clinic:

"We have many opportunities to share our faith here. I re-read lot's of Chic's notes and listen to his tapes to keep up."

Evangelist John Juneman:

"Thank you for the investment you have made in the kingdom and so many lives, including mine."

What Every Pastor Should Know

This is a book by Gary McIntosh and Charles Arn. We reported four "Indispensible Rules of Thumb for Leading Your Church" last newsletter. Here are four more.

- For the church to grow, each worshipper should have an average of nine or more unchurched friends or family members.
- Churches that train members to reach out to unchurched friends and relatives see about 12 percent of these contacts come to Christ.
- Don't call your visitors "visitors". Call them "guests".
- The ten minutes immediately following the worship service are the most important minutes in your guests' visit.

Wesley on Sanctification

We allow, we contend, that we are justified freely through the righteousness and the blood of Christ. And why are you so hot against us, because we expect likewise to be sanctified wholly through his Spirit?

The Works of John Wesley, Kansas City, Mo, Nazarene Publishing House, n.d.), Vol XI, p445.

What 'Living in the Power of the Spirit' Has Done for Me

*I have begun a serious effort at continuous prayer throughout the day in recognition of my relationship with God.

*I became aware how limited my knowledge about the Holy Spirit has been.

*I have felt peace and the Holy Spirit keeping me focused as I study.

*I am learning and understanding Holy Spirit in more intimate way!

*Intentional Bible study.

*This study regarding the Living in the Power of the Spirit—has made clear to me the utmost importance that we be emptied of ourselves and that by doing so Power and True Living come to be a reality.

*As I study the Word, truth is revealed which gives me more light on God's path for me.

Chic Shaver's Upcoming Ministry Schedule

Sept 4-Oct 2, '14 Every Thursday	First Church of the Nazarene Kansas City, MO Living in the Power of the Spirit
Sept 7-Nov 31, '14 Every Sunday Except Revival Wks	First Church of the Nazarene Kansas City, MO Disciples Sunday School Class
Sept 20-23, '14	Union Hill Church of the Nazarene Oneonta, AL Revival
Oct 8-12, '14	Church of the Nazarene Monett, MO Revival
Oct 13-17, '14	Clausel Hill Independent Methodist Church Cairo, MS Revival

CSCE CONTACT INFORMATION:

Chic Shaver Center for Evangelism, 12718 High Dr,
Leawood, KS 66209 913-491-5021

Email: DrChicShaver@aol.com Cell# 913-634-6560

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.