



# THE GOOD NEWS



*The Chic Shaver Center for Evangelism Newsletter September 2020*

## The Lord – The Heart Mover

*“In the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, in order to fulfill the word of the Lord spoken by Jeremiah, the Lord moved the heart of Cyrus king of Persia to make a proclamation throughout his realm and also to put it in writing: ‘This is what Cyrus king of Persia says: “The Lord, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth and he has appointed me to build a temple for him in Judah!”’ Ezra 1:1-2*

President Harry Truman recognized Israel as a nation in 1948. Jews from around the world streamed back to their reestablished nation. Could this have been a case of the “the Lord moved the heart” of the president?

The Lord moved the heart of Cyrus. This was a heathen king. Previously, the Babylonian conquest of Judah, 586 BC, had led to the deportation of many Jews to Babylon. Judah had fallen due to their sin. Now Cyrus, king of Persia, has defeated Babylonia, and in 538 BC, he issues a decree permitting the people of Israel to return to their homeland and rebuild the Temple. Forty-two thousand returned.

The prophets had predicted that God would bring them back. Jeremiah 32:37 said, “I will bring them back to this place and let them live in safety.” Isaiah 45:13: “I will raise up Cyrus in my righteousness... he will rebuild my city and set my exiles free.” Yes, God is the Heart Mover, the Heart Stirrer even of great people, even of people who do not yet serve the Lord.

Several have joined with her in prayer. Her present employer’s business has been sold, and there is a new bigger showroom, an expansion plan, and a new owner. Soon, the employee will meet with the new owner to discuss her responsibilities, hours, and salary. The friends are praying “the Lord will move the heart” of the new owner to appropriate and considerate treatment toward the said employee.

I was eating breakfast with a dozen men at a regular Friday morning men’s prayer breakfast. I was serving as professor of evangelism at Nazarene Theological Seminary. A man sitting next to me—a vice president of a prestigious financial institution in town—leaned over to me and whispered, “I’m on the board of a charitable trust, and we like to give money to Christian causes, especially evangelism. Make an appeal to us for evangelism scholarships.” He set an appointment for me to meet the president of the trust. Wheels were put in motion, and between half a million dollars to a million dollars of scholarship money went to scores of students who today are winning many people to Jesus Christ. I was caught off guard, but God “moved the heart” of the man next to me at breakfast. What person do you need to pray for—that God will move that heart?

*- Chic Shaver*

## The Future of the Evangelism Center

We began the Center in 1992 to promote key themes of evangelism, witness, revival, and holiness and to give assistance to my ministry. Originally, I told my family that, when I died, they could close down the Center. As the Center grew and expanded its influence, we were amazed at the army of prayer partners and givers that developed. The newsletter goes to 1600 families, including many church leaders in the USA, and overseas by email to others. Through the work of the Center, hundreds of thousands of dollars have been poured into evangelism scholarships. Books and Bible

studies highlighting our major themes have been given and sent around the world. The Center has become a significant voice for our key themes.

As a result, I’ve decided the Center should continue after my death. Dr. Scott Rainey, who has joined me as Co-Executive Director, will then take leadership, assisted by the Managing Director. Dr. Rainey has had an extremely effective career as a servant of Christ—husband, father, pastor, missionary, and presently the Global Director of Sunday School and Discipleship Ministries International, Global Ministry Center Church of the Nazarene.

For the sake of winning lost people to Christ and urging Christians to experience the Holy Spirit’s sanctifying power, please continue your prayers, your witness, and your financial gifts to CSCE.

With thanks,  
*Dr. Chic Shaver*

## Two Superintendents – Two Districts: Two Potential Spiritual Movements

Bob Skinner, superintendent of the Rocky Mountain District, is promoting witness training for pastors and laity, and corresponding revivals at two key churches on his district with the hope and prayer a resultant spiritual tide will sweep across his district.

**Great Falls, Montana—August 29-September 2**  
**Riverton, Wyoming—September 5-9**

Eddie Estep, superintendent of the Kansas City District, is promoting a similar plan and desire in four key churches on his district.

**Harrisonville, Missouri—September 19-23**  
**Bonner Springs, Kansas—October 10-14**  
**St. Joseph, Missouri—First Church—October 17-21**  
**Topeka, Kansas, First Church—November 7-11**

Your prayers for such a spiritual tide are valued.

## The Two-Second Rule

*“Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.” Philippians 4:8*

In nearly 900 revivals and thousands of miles traveled, I’ve had the privilege of staying in many homes and motels. If lodging in a motel, my goal in getting back to my room after an evening of preaching, praying with people seeking God, and counseling others was to relax and unwind.

Over the sixty-five years I have been doing this, our world has seen many changes and advances in technology. At one point in our home life, we had a simple TV that received six or eight wholesome channels via antenna. As I stayed in certain motels, I, for the first time, was exposed to cable channels. With the power of the remote I could hold in my hand, I could visit many channels in a short time. My favorite relaxations were sports and animal programs. Unplanned, I came across programs freely sent to my room TV that were sexually suggestive. I am sorry to say I lingered over some of these programs.

A cloud began to descend over my relationship with the Lord. At one point, I felt like the Lord said to me, “If you keep this up, you are going to lose your soul.” I asked for forgiveness and cleansing. I knew my “lingering” was not acceptable, and I must take decisive action. I established and maintain the “Two-Second

Rule.” If I come across anything on the TV which is sexually suggestive, within two seconds I must change the channel. What a blessed use of the remote now.

The Apostle Paul could not have known there would be cable TV, computers, Facebook, the internet, smartphones, DVDs, or whatever other devices capable of video transmission. But he understood whatever caught your sight or your mind would eventually capture your mind, your will, your actions. So he listed the true, noble, right, pure, lovely, admirable and said, “think about such things.” Whatever gets your mind gets you. For the sake of your soul, choose the pure, the noble, the true. In previous verses (4:6-7), Paul has given the solution to anxiety. There must be a connection between verse eight—thought life, and verse six and seven—anxiety free living.

One of the best choices I ever made was to adopt the “Two-Second Rule.” Today I am living and rejoicing in the sweetest, most intimate, uplifting relationship with God I’ve ever known. Thank you, Lord! Do you have need to adopt “The Two-Second Rule” or a similar strategy?

- Chic Shaver

### Oswald Chambers on Sanctification

Former Chaplain of the United States Senate, Richard Halverson, said of *My Utmost for His Highest* by Oswald Chambers, “No book except the Bible has influenced my walk with Christ at such deep and maturing levels.” It is the most popular daily devotional book ever published. Here are a few of Chamber’s quotes:

- “Then there follows the second mighty work of grace—’an inheritance among them which are sanctified” (Jan. 10)
- “There is only one stamp of holiness, the holiness of Jesus, and it is His holiness that is gifted to me.” (Apr. 11)
- “Sanctification is not my idea of what I want God to do for me; sanctification is God’s idea of what He wants to do for me, and He has to get me into the attitude of mind and spirit where at any cost I will let Him sanctify me wholly.” (Aug. 14)

### Evangelism Award to Jenee Noriega, Nazarene Theological Seminary, 2020

The Holy Spirit empowers people to do great and good and gracious things. It is true today with Jenee. She was abandoned by her parents when she was two months old. She started using street drugs at age eleven. She was arrested more than twenty-four times as a juvenile. Jenee was arrested by the FBI and was facing a life sentence when, on March 6, 2005, she met Jesus through a lifelong Nazarene who loved Jesus. She was delivered from a nineteen year drug addiction and was transformed by God’s grace. Five months after her conversion, as Jenee studied *Basic Bible Studies for the Spirit-filled and Sanctified Life*, and doing her last thirty days in a detox program, she accepted the gift of the Holy Spirit’s fullness and experienced the second work of grace known as entire sanctification.

Today she is an ordained minister in the Church of the Nazarene and serves as a pastor on staff at a Kansas City church. At the time of this writing, she has just finished leading twelve young people through the sanctification study that so impacted her. She just won “the Evangelism Award” at Nazarene Theological Seminary where she is a student. Jenee’s life and ministry is by the power of the Holy Spirit. What will the Holy Spirit do through you?

- Chic Shaver

### Over 1000 Lessons

John Comstock reports from Global Ministry Center that 1159 people have taken the twelve-lesson class and quiz of Dr. Shaver’s *The Bible Speaks to Me About My Witness*. In addition, there have been 464 viewings of the accompanying video, which includes both individuals and groups. If you wish to take this free class, go to [discipleshipplace.org](http://discipleshipplace.org).

Pastor Jeremiah Silijeur, South African pastor: “Personally, I am learning so much from the videos. Dr.

Shaver and you [John Comstock], wow! It has been a blessing.”

Pastor Brian, Canada: “I just wanted to say that I just finished *The Bible Speaks to Me About My Witness* by Dr. Shaver. I would highly recommend this training. I am planning to use this as a summer study.”

### Basic Bible Studies Growth

The Foundry Publishing reports the October 2019 to March 2020 sales of *Basic Bible Studies* in three different versions at 2355. This brings the total sales since its first publication in 1972 to 754,159.

### Managing Director Change

Joy Parke has been the CSCE Managing Director for around five years but during that time has taken on other responsibilities that have made it more difficult for her to continue in this role. After prayer and much consideration, she has decided to step down from this position and is currently training Margo Manning to serve as the new Managing Director. You will be introduced to Margo in the December newsletter.

### Because You Gave We Gave

- *Basic Bible Studies for New and Growing Christians* and *Basic Bible Studies for the Spirit-Filled and Sanctified Life* to a local church in Kansas
- Discipleship materials to pastors and leaders in Montana, Wyoming, Kansas, and Missouri

### Contributions Were Made in Memory Of:

Sylvia Carlson	B.J. Oke
Pamela “Suzie” Crocker	Kenneth & Marie Sanford
Dr. Paul Cunningham	Marie Sivewright
Gordon Dawn	Paul Spear
James Fox	Doris Synek
Mary Lou Harrison	Beatrice Wenger
Dave & Maryel Moyer	Gloria Willingham

### The Daily Devotional Book

We are making good progress on this project. The articles in this newsletter—“The Lord—The Heart Mover” and “The Two-Second Rule” are examples of the devotionals to be included in this book.

- Chic Shaver

#### CHIC SHAVER’S UPCOMING MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Aug 18	First Church of the Nazarene Kansas City, MO	Sunday AM preaching
Aug 23	Church of the Nazarene Cody, WY	Sunday AM preaching
Aug 29-Sep 2	Church of the Nazarene Great Falls, MT	Revival
Sep 5-9	First Church of the Nazarene Riverton, WY	Revival
Sep 19-23	Church of the Nazarene Harrisonville, MO	Revival
Oct 10-14	Church of the Nazarene Bonner Springs, KS	Revival
Oct 17-21	First Church of the Nazarene St. Joseph, MO	Revival
Oct 24-28	Southport Church of the Nazarene Indianapolis, IN	Revival
Oct 31-Nov 4	Church of the Nazarene Auburn, IN	Revival
Nov 7-11	First Church of the Nazarene Topeka, KS	Revival

#### MINISTRY UPDATE

No revivals scheduled  
 Officiated in two memorial services  
 Extensive writing on devotional book

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*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.*