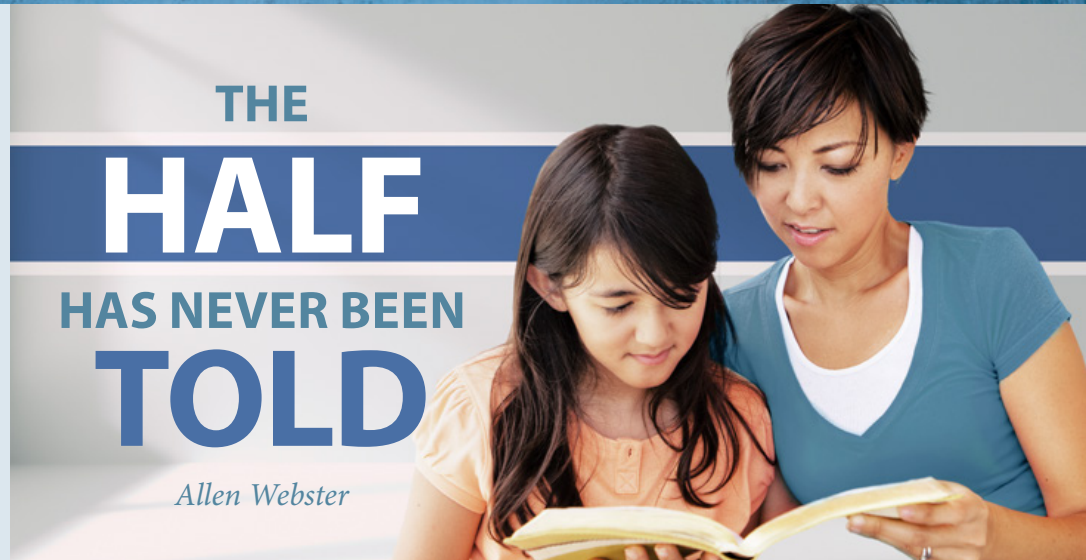


HOUSE to HOUSE  
HEART to HEART

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# House to House Heart to Heart

VOLUME 23 NUMBER 1



## THE HALF HAS NEVER BEEN TOLD

*Allen Webster*

The Queen of Sheba once travelled a thousand miles to visit King Solomon (1 Kings 10:1–13). She came not to form a political alliance, avoid a war, or open trade avenues, but out of simple curiosity. The report of Solomon’s kingdom was so great that she wanted to personally hear his wisdom and see his palace. She came armed with gifts, hard questions, and a skeptical attitude.

After he satisfactorily answered all her queries and showed her the organization of his officers, uniforms of his servants, spectacular palace, and the magnificent temple he had built God, there was “no more spirit in her.” She said, “Indeed the half was not told me” (10:7). We would say today, “You haven’t heard the half of it.”

There are Bible truths that, though they seem exaggerated, eventually we will admit we did not know the half of it.

### THE HALF HAS NEVER BEEN TOLD ABOUT ...

#### GOD’S LOVE

God’s amazing love has perhaps been the theme of more lessons and hymns than any other subject, but no one has ever fully described it. God’s love, like

Christ’s, “passes knowledge” (Ephesians 3:19). Though the Bible nowhere says, “God is hope” or “God is faith,” it does say, “God is love” (1 John 4:8). This sets Jehovah apart from all the imagined gods of heathen nations—gods of revenge, lust, fertility, war, and hate.

God shows love by meeting our needs (Matthew 5:45; James 1:17), blessing us with mates, children, and friends (Psalm 68:6; 113:9), and helping us in times of need (Psalm 46:1).

Scripture’s most famous verse, John 3:16, has been called the greatest verse of the Bible. Here’s why:

- For God—the greatest Being;
- So loved—the greatest emotion;
- The world—the greatest number;
- That He gave—the greatest action;
- Only begotten Son—the greatest gift;
- Believes—the greatest requirement;
- Not perish—the greatest danger;
- Everlasting life—the greatest reward.

The greatest evidence of God’s love is Calvary (Romans 5:8). When sin covered the earth like waters cover the seas, God sent Jesus to die for you and me. Such love excels anything in man’s imagination.





## CHRIST'S SACRIFICE

Many golden-tongued orators have tried to explain that cross, but none has come close. There is no pulpit like the cross; no audience like the one at Calvary; no preacher like the One on the tree; no message like “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do” (Luke 23:34).

From the Garden of Eden to the Cross of Calvary there is a red line of sacrifice, but none compares to the offering of Jesus (John 1:29). He is God’s unspeakable gift (2 Corinthians 9:15). This does not mean that we should not speak of it, but that it is higher than the mind can conceive; more than language can express.

Go with me to Calvary (Luke 23:33) and stand in that crowd. Lift your eyes.

- See His feet—those feet that once carried God’s message from village to village are now disfigured by a spike.
- Look up further, see His stripped body (perhaps a loin cloth) publicly displayed on that busy thoroughfare. He despised the shame but endured it (Hebrews 12:2).
- Look again. See the stripes that ooze with blood and reopen with every move.
- Look at His hands—hands that healed the blind, touched a leper, hugged children—are now fastened to a tree, mangled with crimson-covered nails.
- Look up to the crown that sits on His head. Sharp thorns pierce and lacerate His scalp, which drips blood into His eyes.
- Look into those eyes—eyes that once shone with love are now wet with tears; eyes that twinkled with excitement blink against the agony of breathless exertion.

Jesus could have called angels for rescue, but He suffered those six hours that we might have eternal life (Isaiah 53:5–6).

## SALVATION'S VALUE

From the outside, membership in Christ’s church seems inconsequential—just another social group or spiritual outlet like the religions and denominations that men have founded and frequent.

From the inside, kingdom membership is anything but mundane. It the greatest privilege ever afforded man (1 John 3:1). Since God puts the people He saves into His church, only saved people can be members (Acts 2:38, 41, 47). Christians would sooner trade their lives than give up their membership (many have and more will).

Jesus gave twin parables to teach the same lesson: salvation is worth giving everything to possess. The first is of a man who stumbles upon treasure hidden in a field. He gladly and quickly sells his property to purchase that field (Matthew 13:44). The second is of a jewel merchant searching for high-quality pearls. When he discovers a pearl of great value, he rushes to liquidate everything he owns and returns gladly to exchange all for it (13:45–46).

Like them, we must recognize true riches when we see them. The first man was not treasure hunting, but recognized a life-changing opportunity when he saw it. The other was searching and was willing to commit all to have something great.

How many today drive by a church building but never enter? How many have a Bible on a bookshelf but never read it, or receive HTH or a tract but discard it? How many even attend a service where salvation is offered, yet do nothing to have it?

## CHRISTIANS' JOY

A Hindu asked a Christian, “What medicine do you put on your face to make it

shine so?” She said, “I don’t put anything on it.” He replied, “Yes, you do. All you Christians do. I see shining faces wherever I meet Christians.” She said, “Ah, now I understand. I will tell you what medicine makes our faces shine—joy in our hearts.”

Peter wrote of joy inexpressible (1 Peter 1:8); Paul of perpetual rejoicing and peace passing understanding (Philippians 4:4–7); and Jesus of abundant living (John 10:10). New Christians go on their way rejoicing (Acts 8:35–39; 16:30–34). They have constant access to grace (Romans 5:2). God hears their prayers (John 16:21–24) and grants their needs (1 John 5:14–15). They exult in knowing God defends them (Psalm 5:11–12) and that all things work together for their good (Romans 8:28).

Describing God’s joy to non-Christians can be like describing a sunset to the blind or signing a Beethoven symphony to the deaf. Like the queen of Sheba, they sometimes neither comprehend nor believe when Christians explain that true joy comes from nothing the eye can see, the hand can hold, or the bank can store. One who attains only material wealth may not realize until death how poor he actually was.

The best life comes through the unnatural choices of losing life, denying self, giving in, and seeking first God’s kingdom and His righteousness (Matthew 6:33; 10:39; Luke 9:23). Believers fully live—physically and spiritually; others are only half alive (2 Corinthians 5:17; Ephesians 2:4).

The poorest Christian is among the world’s richest persons, for “godliness is profitable for all things, having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come” (1 Timothy 4:8). Any who leaves house, parents, brothers, wife, or children for the kingdom of God’s sake receives a hundredfold in this present time, and in the world to come, life everlasting (Mark 10:29–30; Luke 18:29–30).

Christians look back and remember when their sins were forgiven (Acts 2:38); they look around with joyful purpose (Titus 2:12); they look ahead to an incorruptible, undefiled inheritance that never fades (1 Peter 1:3–10).



## HELL'S HEAT

The greatest horror ever contemplated is not a Hollywood creation, a Stephen King novel, or a WWII prison camp. It was created by God for Satan and his angels. It begins with crushing words: "Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire" (Matthew 25:41). It never ends. Its smell is sulfur. Its inhabitants are wretched. Its sound track is wailing sobs, gnashing teeth, and pitiful pleas. It is a lake on fire with no beach; a life sentence and no death; searing thirst with no water; tormenting pain with no medicine.

John calls it "the second death" (Revelation 20:14). One born into the world but never into the kingdom dies both a natural and eternal death. One born physically and born again spiritually (John 3:5), experiences only natural death. So, "born once, die twice; born twice, die once."

One man argued against hell, declaring, "I am seventy-years-old, have travelled the world, and have never seen such a place as hell, after all that's said about it." His seven-year-old grandson was listening, and asked this simple question: "Granddaddy, have you ever been dead yet?"

## HEAVEN'S BEAUTY

When a Christian reaches heaven, sees its beauty and meets its King, he will surely say, "I thought the preacher exaggerated, but he did not know the half of it."

Its gates are pearls; its streets are gold; its singers are angels; its houses are mansions; its inhabitants are holy; its temple is God. The Creator made it. The light of the world illuminates it. The Bread of Life is its food. The Water of Life satisfies its thirst. The Good Shepherd watches over it.

The Ancient of Days removes its tears and every impediment to joy. "God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain" (Revelation 21:4; cf. 22:5).

Its foundations are garnished with precious stones (Revelation 21:19–21). Imagine the burst of color upon first glance: crystal (jasper), blue (sapphire), green (emerald), brown (sardonyx), red (sardius), yellow (topaz), and purple (amethyst).

Heaven's joy will last, not for a week (like Christmas), a season (like summer), or a year (like the first of marriage), but for eternity (Matthew 25:46; John 6:47; 11:25; 14:1–3). Heaven is more than can be described with human words or understood by human minds (2 Corinthians 12:4).

Years ago, a peddler in a rickety wagon stopped at a widow's shack. "I buy relics," he announced. "I don't have anything," she replied. "How about that cannon ball?" he asked. "Oh, my boys found that long ago. I keep it because I have good memories of them playing with it."

"I will give you twenty-five dollars," he said. Her eyes widened in surprise. "I'll take it!" After paying her, he took an ax from the wood pile and chopped the ball open. Inside were gold nuggets! He gave her half, which later sold for seven thousand dollars.

Friend, the half has never yet been told of the blessings God intends for you. They are even now within your reach. Like the queen of Sheba, come and see for yourself (1 Kings 10:6; John 1:39).

### Sources Used:

W. T. Allison, Unpublished sermon.  
[www.texsource.com/bible/sermons/131.pdf](http://www.texsource.com/bible/sermons/131.pdf)

## Difficulties in Life

Remember, no matter what comes your way, there would be

- No victory without a battle. "This is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith" (1 John 5:4).
- No crown without a cross. "The life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me" (Galatians 2:20).
- No resurrection without a death. "Declared to be the Son of God with power according to the Spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead" (Romans 1:4).
- No rainbow without a storm. "When I bring a cloud over the earth, that the rainbow shall be seen in the cloud" (Genesis 9:14).
- No empty tomb without Calvary. "There they crucified him" (Luke 23:33).
- No sunrise without a night. "I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world" (John 9:4–5).
- No solution without a problem. "All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus" (Romans 3:23–24).
- No perseverance without hardship. Joseph said to them, "As for you, you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good (Genesis 50:20).

—Glenn Hitchcock

*"Come to me . . . and I will give you rest"*

MATTHEW 11:28

## God's Plan for Saving Man

**God's Grace:** Ephesians 2:8

**Christ's Blood:** Romans 5:9

**The Holy Spirit's Gospel:** Romans 1:16

**Sinner's Faith:** Acts 16:31

**Sinner's Repentance:** Luke 13:3

**Sinner's Confession:** Romans 10:10

**Sinner's Baptism:** 1 Peter 3:21

**Christian's Work:** James 2:24

**Christian's Hope:** Romans 8:24

**Christian's Endurance:** Revelation 2:10







## Two Gifts

“There are two lasting bequests we can give our children: One is roots. The other is wings.” — Hodding Carter, Jr.

*“That your joy may be full”*

1 JOHN 1:4

## The Best Things

“The best things are nearest: breath in your nostrils, light in your eyes, flowers at your feet, duties at your hand, the path of right just before you. Then do not grasp at the stars, but do life’s plain, common work as it comes, certain that daily duties and daily bread are the sweetest things of life.” —Robert Louis Stevenson

*“I will praise the Lord according to His righteousness, and will sing praise to the name of the Lord Most High”*

PSALM 7:17

For more material on the home and family, fathers and mothers, husbands and wives, grandparents, and family finances, go to [www.housetohouse.com](http://www.housetohouse.com).



## Who Will Teach the Children?

I am amazed when parents brag about the intellectual freedom they give to their children regarding forming religious convictions. They say, “We will not influence our children in making choices and decisions in matters of religion.”

Why not?

- The press will.
- The internet will.
- Ads will.
- Politicians will.
- Movies will.
- Friends will.

We use our influence over flowers, vegetables, lawns, and pets. Shall we ignore our own children?

Not only is it important that parents influence children, it is also important to influence them early. I read the story of two heads made of metal, lying side by side in a sculptor’s workshop. One was perfect. All the features of a manly, noble

face were clear and distinct. The other had scarcely a recognizable human characteristic. It was marred and spoiled.

The sculptor explained, “This one is badly distorted because the metal was allowed to cool before it was stamped out, and therefore it wouldn’t take the impression.”

Many souls might have been stamped with the likeness of the Savior while they were still warm with the glow of early youth, but they were allowed to become cold. Thus, they were malformed and their lives ruined. Parents must dedicate to educate their children.

—Author Unknown

*“Remember now your Creator in the days of your youth, before the difficult days come, and the years draw near when you say, ‘I have no pleasure in them.’”*

ECCLESIASTES 12:1

## A Home Is . . .

A house with love inside.

Four walls glued together with the magic paste of tears and laughter, sorrows and joys and dreams.

A sanctuary, a friendly port for the lonely, a beacon for the wanderer.

Built with bricks and mortar and lumber and nails and concrete . . . and devotion and love and courtesy and courage.

As warm as the glow of a fire in the fireplace . . . as serene as a cat napping in the sun on a window sill.

A front door that has known many a happy greeting and a lot of sad farewells.

A nursery that has known a child’s cry in the night . . . and a parlor that had heard a lover’s sigh.

A boy’s bedroom with pennants and poster on the wall, a ball glove in the corner, and music turned up loud.



A happy den full of talk and laughter, a kitchen where Thanksgiving feasts have been prepared, and a living room where the games have been watched.

A bookcase filled with strange and wonderful tales, a carpet worn with the scuffle of little shoes, a lawn that has known bare feet in a summer sprinkle.

A home is many things . . . but most of all, a home is a house held together by a family’s love. —Author unknown

*“At home at my house”*

LUKE 9:61

# 30 NEW TESTAMENT VERSES to Learn Before You Die

## Salvation through Christ

- 1 **John 6:35** Jesus is the bread of life
- 2 **John 8:12** Jesus is the light of the world
- 3 **John 11:25** Jesus is the resurrection and the life
- 4 **Matthew 9:36** Jesus had compassion
- 5 **Acts 2:22** Jesus worked miracles
- 6 **John 3:2** Jesus was the greatest teacher (Matthew 5–7)
- 7 **Matthew 28:1–6** Jesus arose from the dead (1 Corinthians 15:1–4)
- 8 **Acts 1:11** Jesus ascended to God’s right hand

## Man’s response to God’s grace

- 9 **Matthew 28:18** All power is given to Jesus
- 10 **John 8:31–32** The truth sets free
- 11 **Luke 16:13** No man can serve two masters; submit to God; resist the devil (James 4:7–8)

## The Christian Life

- 12 **Matthew 5:16** Let your light shine, glorify God

- 13 **Galatians 2:20** Crucified with Christ, a living sacrifice (Romans 12:1)
- 14 **Mark 10:43–45** The greatest servant is the greatest
- 15 **Matthew 6:33** Seek first the kingdom of God
- 16 **Galatians 5:22–23** Add the fruit of the Spirit
- 17 **Philippians 4:4–7** Rejoice in the Lord always
- 18 **Matthew 6:19–21** Store up treasures in heaven
- 19 **Ephesians 6:13–17** Put on the full armor of God, take the Spirit’s sword and battle the devil
- 20 **Hebrews 4:16** Harness the power of prayer (James 5:16)
- 21 **1 Corinthians 15:33** Keep good company
- 22 **Colossians 3:23** Whatever you do, do your best

## Assurance and comfort

- 23 **Galatians 6:7–8** A man reaps what he sows
- 24 **Romans 8:28** All things work for good for God’s child
- 25 **Romans 8:38–39** Nothing can separate us from the love of God
- 26 **1 Peter 5:7** Cast care on Jesus
- 27 **Matthew 10:28** Fear nothing on earth (Acts 18:10; Philippians 4:6)
- 28 **Hebrews 13:8** Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever
- 29 **James 1:12** Blessed is the man who perseveres to the end (2 Peter 3:17)
- 30 **Matthew 25:34–36** There is a great day coming

Cut out this section and mail it to the address on the front.

## Bible Quiz

VOLUME 23:1

Send us your answers to receive a free Bible bookmark! We’ll grade and return your questions and enclose the bookmark “The Women in Acts” as a way of saying thanks for spending time in the Word (quantities may be limited).

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/State: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Questions taken from the King James Version

### Answers to Last Issue

*Noah’s Boat:* 1. 120 years (Genesis 6:3); 2. Grace (6:8); 3. Shem, Ham, Japheth (6:10); 4. Gopher (6:14); 5. 300 cubits x 50 cubits x 30 cubits (6:15); 6. Yes (6:16); 7. Yes (6:21); 8. All, God, did (6:22); 9. 7 (7:2); 10. 2 (7:2); 11. 7 (7:3); 12. 40 days and 40 nights (7:12); 13. 600 (7:11); 14. 8 (7:13); 15. God (7:16); 16. All, nostrils, died (7:22); 17. Mountains of Ararat (8:4); 18. Raven, dove (8:7–8); 19. Dove (8:9); 20. Olive (8:11); 21. Built altar, offered sacrifices (8:20); 22. Smiter (destroy) any more every living thing (8:21).

## Women of the Old Testament

Find your answers in these verses: Genesis 3:20; 17:15; 19:26; 29:18; 38:13–30; Exodus 2:21; 6:20; Joshua 2:1; Judges 16:6; Ruth 1:4, 15–16; 1 Samuel 1:4–6, 20; 2 Samuel 11:2–3; 1 Kings 19:2; Esther 1:9; 7:3; Hosea 1:3

1. What does “Eve” mean? (Genesis 3:20) \_\_\_\_\_
2. Who married Abraham? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Jacob agreed to work seven years for \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Mother of Samuel \_\_\_\_\_
5. Housed spies sent by Joshua to take the city of Jericho. \_\_\_\_\_
6. Remained with her mother-in-law, Naomi, after Naomi’s husband and sons died. \_\_\_\_\_
7. Mother of Moses \_\_\_\_\_
8. Wife of Moses \_\_\_\_\_
9. Tempted Samson to reveal the secret to his massive strength, which she used to betray him to the Philistines. \_\_\_\_\_
10. This brave Israelite woman became queen of Persia and used her influence to protect her people, the Jews. \_\_\_\_\_
11. The prophet Hosea was commanded to marry this woman, though she was a harlot. \_\_\_\_\_
12. This wicked queen wanted to kill the prophet Elijah. \_\_\_\_\_
13. After David looked upon her lustfully, he had an affair with this woman that ultimately led to her husband’s death. \_\_\_\_\_
14. This woman was Ruth’s sister-in-law. \_\_\_\_\_
15. This woman was turned into a pillar of salt because she looked back. \_\_\_\_\_
16. Daughter-in-law of Judah, by whom he had the twins Zerah and Perez \_\_\_\_\_
17. Modest queen of King Ahasuerus \_\_\_\_\_
18. Wife of Elkanah, rival to Hannah \_\_\_\_\_





# Read It Like a Child

Children can say some of the most interesting things with perfect timing.

I remember one such incident while I was interning in Washington state. After a VBS session, a four-year-old boy from the congregation asked the preacher, “Were you on the Ark?”

He replied, laughing, “No!”

The boy quickly responded, “Well, how did you survive the flood?”

Jesus calls us to be like children (Mark 10:13–16). The simple thinking of a child can open our minds to what is important in the kingdom. To think like a child is simply to trust God and His word. If we can view scripture in such an honest and open-minded fashion, then God can reveal Himself in new ways to us.

As we trust His word to mean what it says, we will grow in understanding as all children do. —Wade Smith

*“Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.”*

MATTHEW 18:3

Cut out this section and mail it to the address on the front.

## Recommended Resource



The Gospel Broadcasting Network is unique in the world of religious TV—commercial free, and they never ask for money! Sponsored by the churches of Christ, GBN is available on many cable systems as well as through their smartphone apps, the Roku device, and at [gbntv.org](http://gbntv.org).

## I want to learn more about the Bible!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Prayer requests or comments: \_\_\_\_\_

### I would like:



A Bible Correspondence Course



A DVD Bible Study



An In-Home Bible Study

## New Tracts!

- Booklet God's Great and Precious Promises
- The Devil's Favorite Sermons
- Be Faithful
- Forty-four Facts about the Bible That You May Not Know



### More subjects:



Who Is Missing Out?



I've Got Friends in Low Places



How to Have a Great Spiritual Retirement



This Is Going to Sting a Little



The Holiness of God



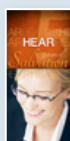
Noah by Numbers



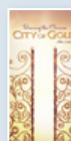
Overcoming the Challenges Blended Families Face



Believe (5 steps of Salvation)

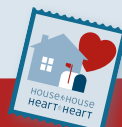


Hear (5 Steps of Salvation)



Pursuing the Elusive City of Gold

Don't see the topic you need? Visit [www.housetohouse.com](http://www.housetohouse.com) for more subjects.





# A Sectarian and a Truth Seeker

A sectarian is one who defends everything his party holds or that will help his party, and opposes all that his party does not hold or that will injure the strength and popularity of his party.

The partisan takes it for granted everything his party holds is right, and everything the other party holds is wrong and to be opposed.

Hence the party lines define his faith and teaching. He sees no good in the other party. He sees no wrong in his own party, unless some one in his party should love truth and oppose an error of his party or defend a truth of the other party.

A truth lover and seeker always looks into whatever party he comes in contact with, and will first look to see what truth the party holds. All parties hold some element of truth. Usually each party holds and emphasizes some particular truth in a way of its own.

One seeking truth above all other things will search out first of all this truth and appropriate it as his own. A true lover of truth seeks out and appropriates as his own every truth he finds, no matter who holds or teaches it.

All truth is the heritage of the truth lover and seeker. He will approach every teacher and every system as holding and cherishing some truth that he desires to learn and hold. He will feel kindly toward all.

The love of truth is a spirit of kindness and love toward all, even to the holder of error. He loves the holder of truth because he receives truth and strength from him. He loves those in error because he sympathizes with them and desires to impart truth and strength to them. He knows, too, the more truth and strength he imparts to others, the more he has for himself.

A characteristic of truth is, the more we give away, the more we have to keep for ourselves. Imparting, giving away truth increases our own store.

The lover of truth, then, feels kindly toward all and approaches all, whether to gain or impart, in a spirit of kindness and love.

The effort to learn and gain truth from others opens their hearts to learn and receive truth from us. He who is most willing to receive truth from others is the most effective teacher of truth to others.

When we are receiving another's truth is a good time to remove his errors and impart to him truth. Jesus and the apostles acknowledged the truth others held, and made the acknowledgment of that truth often the occasion of correcting their errors and teaching other truths. — David Lipscomb, "A Sectarian and a Truth Seeker," *Gospel Advocate* (June 27, 1907): 409.

*"Buy the truth, and sell it not."*

PROVERBS 23:23

## The Opportunity of a Lifetime

In the year 2000, the CEO of an up and coming company offered to sell his company to Blockbuster for \$50 million dollars. The executives at Blockbuster not only rejected the offer but also nearly laughed this man out of their office. The company they turned down was Netflix. Today, Netflix is valued at over \$56 Billion dollars. The executives of Blockbuster, who filed for bankruptcy in 2010, are probably not laughing now at their missed opportunity.

If one could spend \$50 million dollars to receive \$50 billion dollars in return, would he not do so?

But here's an even better question to consider. If one could spend his life in service to God, and in return receive Heaven for eternity, would he not do so?

— Steven Higginbotham, Knoxville, Tennessee

*"The night cometh, when no man can work."*

JOHN 9:4





You're ready to be baptized when you know that only in Jesus Christ can your sins be forgiven and you can be returned to the presence of God (Ephesians 1:7).

You're ready to be baptized when you believe in Jesus as God in the flesh, the One appointed to die in our place, the Risen One who will come again (John 8:24; 2 Timothy 3:15).

You're ready to be baptized when you decide to abandon the old life of sin and live a holy life by imitating the Lord Jesus (Luke 24:46-47; Acts 2:38).

You're ready to be baptized when you are willing to publicly declare yourself to be one of Jesus' followers, even in the face of death (Romans 10:10; Revelation 2:10).

You're ready to be baptized when you understand that the reason for baptism is burial into Christ's death to wash away your sins with his blood (Romans 6:1-4; Acts 22:16).

You're ready to be baptized when you accept participating in the suffering of Christ in order that the gospel may be spread (1 Peter 2:9-12).

You're ready to be baptized when you are committed to showing sincere and earnest love to your Christian family (1 Peter 1:22).

—J. Randal Matheny, São José dos Campos, Brazil



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1/18



The End of Your Search for a

**Friendly Church!**

Thinking of starting to church? Looking for a new church home? We've put out the welcome mat. Give us an opportunity to win a second visit!