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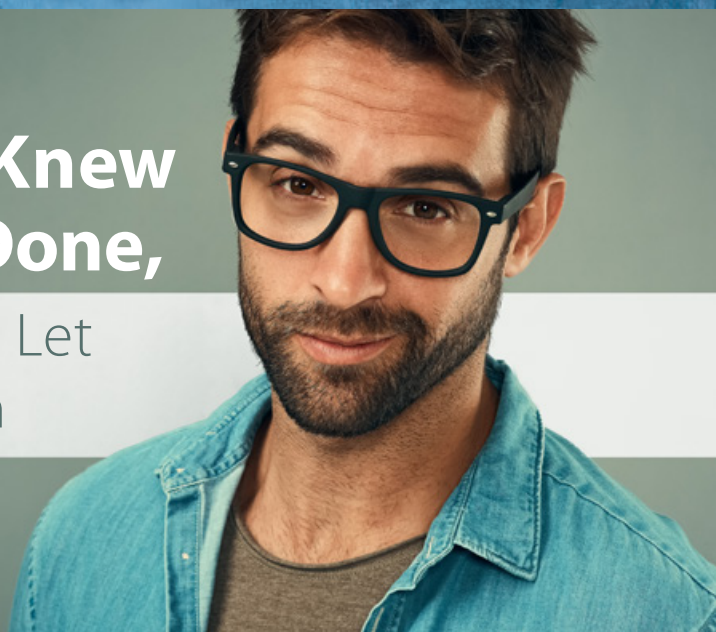
# House to House Heart to Heart

VOLUME 24 NUMBER 5

## If People Knew What I'd Done,

They'd Never Let  
Me in Church

*Allen Webster*



"Church is for good people, and I won't really fit in."

"Church is for believers, and I have some doubts."

"Church is for families, and I'm from a broken home."

"Church is for people with good habits, and I've got some bad ones."

"Church is for people who grew up in Sunday school; my parents didn't take me."

"Church is for respectable people, and I've messed up my life."

"Church is for married couples, and I'm single."

The list of excuses could grow long. The truth is there is no typical church member. No one will check your spiritual ID at the door on Sunday. There are no forms to fill out on your first visit; no references are required; no background checks to check us out. We all had to start where we were on our journey to heaven. Some came from farther in the far country than others, but we all had the smell of the pigpen on us (Luke 15).

If you are wondering if church is "for you," then read on.

Church is for you because:

### **GOD WANTS TO MAKE SOMETHING OF YOU, AND THE CHURCH IS HIS WORKSHOP.**

If we are "His workmanship" (Ephesians 2:10), then He must have a workshop. Since He puts every saved person in the church (Acts 2:47), that would be the place He measures, molds, and makes us into masterpieces of His grace.

God took the wishy-washy Simon and made the rock Cephas (John 1:42). He took the persecutor Saul and made the missionary Paul (Acts 9:1–31). He took a hair-triggered Son of Thunder and made him the tenderhearted disciple of love (Mark 3:17; 1 John 3:14). He cast the demons out of Mary Magdalene and restored her normal life (Luke 8:2; 24:10). What could God do with you?

Have you thought of the simple phrase, God is "for us"? (Romans 8:31). It is easier for many to envision God as "against those who do evil" (Psalm 34:16), which is true, than it is to see the greater truth that God wants us to succeed and not fail—to go to heaven and not to hell. The prodigal son was a disappointment to his



father to be sure; the father nonetheless ran to him, welcomed him, planned a party, and restored his son's status in the family (Luke 15:11–32).

God offers us the same grace—identical mercy, forgiveness, compassion, and opportunity. There is no sin too bad, no deed too awful, no thought too embarrassing to be forgiven.<sup>1</sup> God loves us (Ephesians 2:4), and what is more, we cannot keep Him from loving us (cf. Jeremiah 31:3; John 13:1). We can disappoint Him (Genesis 6:6). We can grieve Him (Ephesians 4:30). We can hurt Him (Psalm 95:10). We can put up an umbrella of sin to block the sunshine of His love, but we cannot make Him hate us. Love is who He is (1 John 4:8), and He cannot deny Himself (2 Timothy 2:13).

The church welcomes sinners because God welcomes them. The church offers God's forgiveness because its members have received it (Colossians 3:12–13). The church gives us all a second chance at becoming the person God intended for us to be.

### **JESUS IS YOUR FRIEND, AND CHURCH IS WHERE HE MEETS HIS FRIENDS.**

Jesus had friends on earth (cf. Luke 12:4; John 11:11). He has friends now: “You are My friends, if you do whatever I command you” (John 15:14). Where does He

meet them? At church, of course. He eats and drinks with them there (Matthew 26:29; Luke 22:30).

Christ will welcome you to His church. It is as if He greets you at the front door with a smile (Matthew 11:28; 1 Timothy 2:3–6; 2 Peter 3:9). Every church says it wants to be a welcoming church, but the way churches welcome may be superficial—a warm greeting, a pleasant smile, a friendly handshake, and a welcome packet. Those things are good, but Christ's welcome is better. It is salvation (Romans 10:13), reconciliation (Romans 5:10), and reception into God's family (Romans 8:16).

There are conditions to these wonderful blessings. Christ receives sinners when they repent. He said, “Unless you repent you will all likewise perish” (Luke 13:3, 5; cf. Mark 8:34; Acts 17:30). We do not go to heaven just because God loves us, nor because we love Him. We do not go to heaven only because we clean up our act.<sup>2</sup> Salvation comes to believers who repent and obey Christ's gospel (Acts 2:38; 17:30–31).

Culture says that the church must change with the times, tone down talk about sin, and make no demands for life change. Just focus on God's love and do not mention sin, we are told. The world sees only two responses to sinners: either

love them and accept their lifestyle as is, or disagree with them and thereby judge them and hate them.

Neither was Jesus' response—He loved sinners while maintaining holy expectations. He never condoned sin (John 8:1–11), and He never never hated anyone or unfairly judged anyone (Matthew 7:1; Mark 10:21). His church must imitate Him (Ephesians 5:11). Since Jesus requires repentance, His church cannot offer cheap grace. The church is not just being old-fashioned. Christians are not backward bigots who refuse to get with the times. Despite what society says, abortion is sin. Racism is sin. Premarital sex is sin. Abusing women, children, the poor, or any person is sin. Pornography is sin. Greed is sin. Homosexual behavior is sin. Lying is sin. God's word is eternal (1 Peter 1:23–25). It does not change because opinions or laws change, nor when its principles become unpopular (Malachi 3:6; Romans 3:4). God's judgments have remained unchanged since the New Testament was completed (Hebrews 13:8; Jude 1:3). The Scriptures will read the same at the Judgment as today (John 12:48).

Jesus' church must meet people where they are and help them go where God wants them. Jesus' blood “cleanses us from all sin” (1 John 1:7). Paul preached the gospel to adulterers, thieves, drunkards, homosexuals, fornicators, covetous, and idol worshipers. They changed, and God saved them (1 Corinthians 6:9–11). On the day of judgment, may no sinner in this generation say of the church, “You had good news to share, but you did not share it with me. Ashamed to call sin a sin, you condoned the behavior I'm condemned for.”

### **THE HOLY SPIRIT WANTS TO COMFORT YOU, AND THE CHURCH IS HIS HABITATION (EPHESIANS 2:21–22).**

The Spirit, or Comforter (John 14:16), offers peace and joy in Christ (Romans 8:26–27; 14:17; 15:13; Galatians 5:22–23; Philippians 2:1).

The Spirit anticipated some would say, “If people knew what I have done, they would never let me in church,” so He put encouraging examples in Scripture. The



first church members were guilty of the blood of Jesus Himself (Acts 2:22–23). Yet they were forgiven (Acts 2:38, 41, 47).

The Philippian jailer gives no indication he had ever “been to church” in his life. He was a pagan Roman—not a Jew—so he was uninformed of Old Testament teaching about the Messiah. Paul and Silas taught him to believe on Christ to be saved (Acts 16:31). When they taught him and he believed, he was baptized “the same hour of the night” (16:32–34).

The Corinthians are another example (Acts 18:8). There was no Las Vegas or San Francisco in the Roman Empire, but there was a Corinth. Its citizens were widely known for immorality and ungodliness. Evangelizing in that place struck fear into the seasoned heart of the veteran apostle Paul (Acts 18:9–10; 1 Corinthians 2:3). *Surely*, he must have thought, *I’m wasting my time here*. But the Lord knew what Paul did not. Those who perhaps were used to being featured in gossip columns or police records (1 Corinthians 6:9–11) soon composed the membership rolls of Christ’s church in Corinth.

Take heart. You are not worse than those who became Christians in the New Testament. It is as easy for Jesus to save a great sinner as a small sinner. “Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall be as wool” (Isaiah 1:18). No one was ever saved because his sins were few; no one was ever rejected because his sins were many. If our guilt is enormous, He receives greater honor to pluck such a brand from the burning (Amos 4:11; Jude 1:23).<sup>3</sup> Where sin abounds, grace abounds “much more” (Romans 5:20).

Jesus worked among publicans and sinners (Luke 7:34). He had success at changing them in the first century, and His gospel changes people today (Romans 1:16). Those involved in sinful behavior should not judge themselves unworthy of being Christians (Acts 13:46). People can change. It may not be easy, but with Christ it can be done. Paul wrote, “I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me” (Philippians 4:13). If you need to make changes, do not use the excuse that you have been this way too long.

Take a step in the right direction, and Christ will help you finish the journey.

**THE DEVIL IS AGAINST  
YOU, AND CHURCH IS THE  
SAFEST PLACE FOR YOU.**

To be blunt, Satan wants to destroy your life and take you to hell (1 Peter 5:8; Matthew 25:41). He is a wily foe (Ephesians 6:11) who has been doing this for thousands of years to billions of people. Do you think you will be able to defeat him on your own—your own wisdom, strength, and willpower? You will not. In fact, if you are mature enough to have sinned, he already has you (Romans 3:23; 1 John 1:8, 10). You need Christ’s help, the Word’s wisdom, and the gospel’s power. These are available in the church through preaching (1 Peter 4:2) and the good examples of others (1 Corinthians 11:1; Hebrews 13:7, 17).

Satan’s tactic is to distract and delay (Matthew 13:19–22; John 8:44; 2 Corinthians 11:3). If he can keep you away from church because you fear what others may say, or because you think you can never change or measure up to expectations, he has you where he wants you (Acts 24:25). If he can keep you from the flock, you will not find the Shepherd (John 10:1–10).

**CHRISTIANS ARE LOVING PEOPLE,  
AND CHURCH IS WHERE YOU  
CAN CONNECT WITH THEM.**

Many people are looking for a group to belong to, fellowship with, and enjoy their company. There is no better group than God’s people. (Stereotypes are off-base. Christians are not a bunch of hateful hypocrites, stuck up and holier than thou.) The Christians I know are loving, fun, friendly people saved by grace.

The reasons to start going to church far outweigh the excuses for not going. Be our guest Sunday. Just come and watch, if you want. “Come and see” (John 1:46). You’ll be welcomed.

Endnotes:

<sup>1</sup> Larry R. Kalajainen, *Extraordinary Faith for Ordinary Time*, CSS Publishing Company, Inc.

<sup>2</sup> David J. Stewart, *God Loves People*.

<sup>3</sup> Archibald Alexander, founding professor of Princeton Theological Seminary, *Sinners Welcome to Come to Jesus Christ*.



## Can’t Be Stopped

A funny story came out of the old Brooklyn Dodgers football team in the early years of professional football.

George Cafego played halfback for the Dodgers. One day they were playing the New York Giants, and Cafego brought the ball up field on a punt return.

This was just moments before the first half ended, and he broke away. But first one man hit him and then another. Finally, about five Giants ganged up on him; it looked like he was going down, but remarkably he escaped. But just as he was tackled and went down the gun exploded to end the first half.

A spectator was shocked and shouted out, “They had to shoot him to stop him!”

You get the impression from the book of Acts that the only way to stop the early Christians was to kill them.

Don’t give up easily. Travel the strait and narrow way (Matthew 7:13–14).

—Author Unknown

*“Come to Me . . . and I will give you rest.”*

MATTHEW 11:28

## God’s Plan for Saving Man

**Divine Love**, John 3:16

**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 Love**, Matthew 22:37

**Christian’s Work**, James 2:24

**Christian’s Hope**, Romans 8:24

**Christian’s Endurance**, Revelation 2:10

## Sharing Brownies

A little boy was in a heated argument with his sister about who was going to get the last brownie. His mother overheard the loud discussion in their kitchen and came in to resolve the conflict. Her two children were obviously very distraught about getting that final treat. Sensing the need to teach a deeper truth, the mom asked her children that ever-relevant question: "What would Jesus do?" The older sibling immediately answered, "That's easy; Jesus would just break the brownie and make five thousand more!" —[ministry127.com](http://ministry127.com).

*"Rejoice"*

PHILIPPIANS 4:4

## Be There

It may be hard on some fathers not to have a son, but it is so much harder on a boy not to have a father.

—*King Me*, Steve Farrar

*"Since his life is bound up in the lad's life"*

GENESIS 44:30



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).

## Easy or Hard?

A large poster in a Montgomery Ward & Co. store in Oklahoma once read, "It all began at Montgomery Ward & Co. in 1939. Robert L. May, an advertising copywriter, was asked to write a Christmas poem. With his 4-year-old daughter as critic, May created the story of a reindeer who was teased and laughed at because he had a bright red nose."

Who guessed this is talking about Rudolph? Congratulations! Now, see if your children can identify the famous reindeer. How did they do? I dare say they did quite well.

Would we do as well identifying Bible characters? What woman prayed for a son, and then lent him to the Lord all his life? What man committed the first murder? Who succeeded David as king over Israel? What man was commanded to offer his son as a burnt offering? Who led Israel out of Egyptian bondage? What was the name of Jesse's most famous son? Who used a stone for a pillow and dreamed about a ladder that reached from earth to heaven? Who was the son of Zacharias and Elizabeth? What man and woman died because they lied about their giving? Who went with Paul on what we call his first missionary journey?

How did you do? These are simple questions, and you should have done well. Now, ask your child these ten Bible questions, and see how he does. If he got all ten correct, he is to be congratulated. If he missed as many as three of these sim-



ple questions, and yet was able to identify Rudolph, he's not studying the Bible nearly enough.

Could it be we are not spending enough time in serious Bible study? Could it be that even in Bible classes we spend too much time teaching about the Bible and too little time teaching the Bible itself?

What is worse, some do not come to the Bible classes at all. They and their children know all about Rudolph and television, but they know little about the Bible.

God said of his people in the Old Testament, "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge. Because you have rejected knowledge, I also will reject you from being priest for Me; because you have forgotten the law of your God, I also will forget your children" (Hosea 4:6 NKJV).

If it was so serious a matter to be ignorant of that inferior Old Testament covenant, what about the seriousness of being ignorant of that better covenant which was established on better promises? (See Hebrews 8:6.) —[Bobby Duncan](#)

## 500 Family Counselors Say . . .

According to a study of more than 500 family counselors, the following are the top traits of successful families:

- Communicating and listening
- Affirming and supporting family members
- Respecting one another
- Developing a sense of trust
- Sharing time and responsibility
- Knowing right from wrong
- Having rituals and traditions

- Sharing a religious core
- Respecting privacy.

—*Focus on the Family Bulletin*, December 1988

*"Go and do likewise."*

LUKE 10:37





# Dying as a Fool



We all have an appointment with death that shall be kept (Hebrews 9:27). "What man can live and not see death?" (Psalm 89:48).

In what state will we die? Most will die in sin, but we can die in Christ with the righteous. A most interesting statement is made in 2 Samuel 3:33. David spoke of dying "as a fool." Jesus referred to one as a fool hours before his death (Luke 12:20). Ponder the thought of dying as a fool in the following ways.

**Dying without Ever Having Obeyed the Gospel.** Matthew 7:24–27 speaks of the wise and the foolish. The wise obey the Lord's commands and the foolish fail to obey (Romans 6:17–18). Those who fail to obey will be punished forever (2 Thessalonians 1:7–9). You surely plan to listen to the Lord's will, believe it, re-

pent of sin, confess Jesus before others, and be baptized. Time and opportunity could be limited. Don't die as a fool.

**Dying in an Unfaithful State.** Galatians 3:1 refers to those living in an unfaithful state as being foolish (cf. 2 Peter 2:20–22; Matthew 13:41–43). Why have you left the Lord? Is He not still worthy of your service and worship? In this state, you are apart from grace (Galatians 5:4). Repent, change, and be restored (Acts 8:22–24) before death claims you.

**Dying in Ungodliness.** It certainly would be foolish for a person to die in a state of ungodliness. Sin separates man from God (Isaiah 59:1–2). One cannot go where the Lord is if that person dies in sin (John 8:21; 1 Corinthians 6:9–10; Galatians 5:19–21). Blessed are the pure

in heart and the holy, for they shall see heaven (Matthew 5:8; Hebrews 12:14).

**Dying While Living Solely for the Present.** The rich farmer (Luke 12) and the rich man (Luke 16) lived solely for the present. How foolish to fail to prepare for eternity.

**Dying in a State of Indifference.** Five virgins were called foolish because they failed to adequately prepare (Matthew 25:1–13). The Laodiceans, the Ephesians, and those at Sardis were all called upon to change from their indifference. Indifference will cause many to be lost.

You will die! Please do not be in any of these states.

—Vance Hutton, Double Springs, Alabama

*"It is appointed for men to die once."*

HEBREWS 9:27

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



## Bible Quiz

VOLUME 24:5

Send us your answers to receive a free Bible bookmark! We'll grade and return your questions and enclose the bookmark "Chapter to Chapter – Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians" as a way of saying thanks for spending time in the Word (quantities may be limited).

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

Questions are taken from the New King James Version.

### Answers to Previous Quizzes

**V. 24:3** *How Much Do You Know about King David?* 1. Keeper of the sheep (1 Samuel 16:11); 2. Samuel (1 Samuel 16:13); 3. Armorbearer and Musician (1 Samuel 16:21–23); 4. Saul (1 Samuel 18:11, 19:1–2); 5. Goliath (1 Samuel 17:4, 50); 6. 33 years (2 Samuel 5:5); 7. The Jebusites (2 Samuel 5:6); 8. Bathsheba (2 Samuel 11:2–3); 9. Put Uriah in the front of the hottest battle and retreat, so he would be killed (2 Samuel 11:15); 10. Hebron (2 Samuel 5:3); 11. 30 years old (2 Samuel 5:4); 12. Saul's daughter Michal (1 Samuel 18:27); 13. Absalom (2 Samuel 15:10); 14. Nabal (1 Samuel 25:5–38); 15. Saul (1 Samuel 19:1, 10, 11); 16. Nathan (2 Samuel 12:1–7); 17. The child born to him and Bathsheba died (2 Samuel 12:9–18); 18. Amasa (2 Samuel 17:25); 19. He was hanged when his hair got caught in a terebinth tree and Joab thrust three spears through his heart and his armorbearers struck and killed him (2 Samuel 18:9–15); 20. Mephibosheth (2 Samuel 9:6–7).

**V. 24:2** *I Stand Amazed (Miracles of Christ):* 1. Water made into wine (John 2:1–11); 2. Feeding the 5,000 (John 6:1–14; Matthew 14:15–21; Mark 6:35–44; Luke 9:12–17); 3. Walked on water (Matthew 14:22–33); 4. He calmed the storm (Matthew 8:23–27); 5. Leprosy (Matthew 8:1–4); 6. She touched the border of Jesus' garment (Luke 8:43–44); 7. His mother-in-law (Luke 4:38–39); 8. A man who was blind from birth (John 9:1–41); 9. Malchus (John 18:10–11); 10. They said he casts out devils by Beelzebub (Luke 11:14–15); 11. He said, "Be quiet and come out of him!" (Luke 4:33–35); 12. 12 years old? (Mark 5:22–24, 35–42); 13. He said, "Young man, I say to you, arise." So he who was dead sat up and began to speak. And He presented him to his mother. (Luke 7:11–17).

## Jesus' Crucifixion and Resurrection

**Directions:** Find answers in the following passages. Questions taken from the New King James Version. Psalm 22:7–22; Matthew 27:33–35, 38, 41–42, 45, 51–57, 62–66; 28:5–6, 9; Mark 16:1, 9, 13–14; Luke 23:38, 48, 50–53.

1. On what hill was Jesus crucified? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What did they offer Jesus to drink as He was crucified? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Who predicted that they would divide up His clothes by casting lots? \_\_\_\_\_
4. In what languages was the inscription written that was placed above Jesus on the cross? \_\_\_\_\_
5. How many other people were crucified with Jesus? \_\_\_\_\_
6. "If he be the King of Israel, let him now come \_\_\_\_\_ from the cross, and we will \_\_\_\_\_ him." \_\_\_\_\_
7. How many hours of darkness were there when Jesus hunged on the cross? \_\_\_\_\_
8. After Jesus died, what supernatural events took place? \_\_\_\_\_
9. How did the people watching respond to the events at His death? \_\_\_\_\_
10. Which Psalm gives a first-person account of the crucifixion? \_\_\_\_\_
11. Who owned the tomb where Jesus was buried? \_\_\_\_\_
12. Because Jesus had said he would rise again, Pilate set a watch over the tomb at the request of \_\_\_\_\_
13. Why did Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James come to the tomb when the Sabbath was past? \_\_\_\_\_
14. Who told Mary that Jesus was not in the tomb, but He had risen? \_\_\_\_\_
15. To whom did Jesus first appear after His resurrection? \_\_\_\_\_
16. As the women went to tell Jesus' disciples that Jesus had risen, who did they meet on the way? \_\_\_\_\_
17. What was the disciples' response when they were told that Jesus had risen? \_\_\_\_\_

# Need Advice?

The Bible is a storehouse that offers practical advice on the following everyday issues:

- Love (1 Corinthians 13).
- Leadership (Nehemiah).
- Laziness (Proverbs 6:6–8).
- Patriotism (Proverbs 14:34; Jonah).
- Materialism (Deuteronomy 8; Ecclesiastes; Luke 12:15).
- Investments (Proverbs; Matthew 25).
- Household responsibilities (Proverbs 31).
- Disappointment (Psalm 121; Philippians 4:6–7).
- Satisfying relationships (Colossians 3).
- Overcoming weakness (2 Corinthians 12:7–9).
- Womanizing (Proverbs 6:25–29; Hebrews 13:4).
- Aging (Ecclesiastes 12).
- Marital bliss (Song of Solomon).
- Courage (Esther).
- Hope (John 14; 2 Peter 1:3).

There is much to be discovered. One way to make Bible reading interesting is to assume the role of a hunter. With a highlighter as your weapon, and your prey a subject (God's attributes, miracles, fulfilled prophecies, grace, unknown facts, salvation, heaven, baptism, or precious promises), set out to underline everything the Bible has on that subject.

Take notes. Become an expert.

—Author Unknown

*"Learn from me"*

MATTHEW 11:29



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## 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!

If you knew for sure that the religious path you are on would not get you to heaven, would you change? If there was the possibility of a doubt, would you investigate? Why not request a personal Bible study today?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

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

### I would like:



☐ A Bible Correspondence Course



☐ A DVD Bible Study



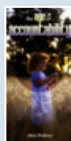
☐ An In-Home Bible Study

## New Tracts!

- ☐ Is Christianity the Problem?
- ☐ A Study in Prayer
- ☐ I'm Not Ashamed to Own My Lord
- ☐ How Good Are You at Rejoicing?



### More subjects:



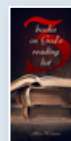
☐ The Age of Accountability



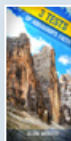
☐ The Element of Baptism



☐ Sprinkling, Pouring, or Immersion?



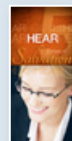
☐ 3 Books on God's Reading List



☐ 3 Tests of Abraham's List



☐ Believe (5 steps of Salvation)



☐ Hear (5 steps of Salvation)



☐ Repent (5 steps of Salvation)



☐ What Should I Teach My Child about Baptism?



☐ Confess (5 steps of Salvation)

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

VOLUME 24:5



# Infographic here

## What Jesus Never Did

In infancy He startled a king; in boyhood He puzzled the doctors; in manhood He ruled the seas.

He healed the multitudes without medicine and made no charges for His services.

He never wrote a book, yet many thousands of books have been written about Him.

He never wrote a song, yet He has furnished more song themes than all the songwriters combined.

He never founded a college, yet all the schools together cannot boast of as many students as He has. He never practiced medicine, yet He has healed more broken hearts than doctors have broken bodies.

He never marshalled an army, drafted a soldier, or fired a gun, yet no leader ever commanded so great a multitude of volunteers.

Great men have come and gone, yet He lives on. Herod could not kill Him, Sa-

tan could not seduce Him, and the grave could not hold Him.

Many have faltered, failed, and faded away, but not Jesus. He is the friend of sinners (Matthew 11:19; Luke 7:34).

—Unknown

*"I saw the dead, small and great,  
standing before God"*

REVELATION 20:12



## CAN'T SWIM, *But Does*

The Byram River in Greenwich, Connecticut, at the crest was running twelve to fifteen feet deep.

A family picnicking at the edge watched in horror as their two-year-old daughter fell into the water. Her 23-year-old mother, who could not swim and was horrified by water, jumped in and pulled her little girl to safety.

The headlines the next day said, "Mother Who Couldn't Swim, But She Does, and Saves Daughter."

Provided the proper motivation, we all can do far more than we believe we can. Many who are afraid of water have been baptized for remission of sins (Acts 2:38). Some who are afraid of public speaking have become preachers of the gospel (Romans 10:14–15). Some timid souls have won many to Christ (Proverbs 11:30). A lot of folks who thought they could never serve Christ effectively found a spark of zeal and love and become great workers.

*"I can do all things through Christ  
who strengthens me"*

PHILIPPIANS 4:13



Please recycle House to House by giving  
this copy to your family or friends.

5/19

# ASK ANY BIBLE QUESTION

Do you have something you always wanted to know about the Bible? Go to [housetohouse.com/questions](https://housetohouse.com/questions) or send your question to us at the address on the front. We will answer as quickly as we can.