



Determining the Will of God

Weimar News

■ ■ ■ page 27



SPIRITUAL ROULLETTE!

BY PASTOR DOUG BATCHELOR

THE PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE THE PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE THE PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

In this issue of the *Inside Report*, we're going to consider several ways to evaluate God's will for your life. This is a crucial aspect of everything we do at Amazing Facts — whatever goals we set for the ministry, we want to be certain that they are in harmony with God's perfect plan.

We have so many soul-winning projects underway, including our *Cosmic Conflict* DVD, the partnership with Weimar, and a redesign of BibleUniverse.com.

But none of these outreaches could accomplish anything if they aren't squarely in the middle of God's sovereignty. We generally don't move forward with a new project unless we have a direction from the Lord through prayer, counsel, and Bible study.

But before you start reading my article "Determining the Will of God," I first want to address some of the dubious methods people will often use to make a crucial decision in their lives.

For instance, Christians should avoid resorting to any process that amounts to flipping a coin. I'm not saying God can't speak through a coin, but coin tossing is something more in line with football games. It might work for the NFL, but if I'm making a life decision, I want more Spirit-led direction than heads or tails. Would you choose a spouse that way?

Sometimes when flipping a coin, a person doesn't get the side they want, so he says, "I'll do two out of three." He'll just keep flipping the coin until he gets the desired result. Plus, you don't want to box the Lord in with just two options by forcing this kind of "north or south" method. You might be limiting how God is going to answer you.

Also, though there are times for it, you want to avoid throwing out a fleece. Keep in mind that when Gideon used a fleece, it was a last resort; he was also facing a decision

where the wrong choice might result in the death of hundreds. Gideon's experience was a supernatural sign, but insisting that God grant us angelic evidence is risky — there are both good and bad angels! So avoid the habit of tossing out a sheepskin when seeking God's guidance.

Next, you've probably met someone who makes decisions by quickly flipping through the Bible, poking her finger on a page, and assuming whatever verse she happens to stab must be God's message to her. Be careful about using your Bible like a kind of Ouija board. I'm

not saying that God is incapable of leading like this; sometimes the Lord winks at our ignorance (Acts 17:30). But I don't think it's advisable if you lack a strong relationship with God. You might flip your Bible open and plop your finger down on Isaiah 20:3. (Look it up.)

Finally, can God guide us through dreams and visions? Sure He can, but remember that the majority of

your dreams are just gibberish that comes when your brain defragments from the day before (Ecclesiastes 5:3). Sometimes the bizarre dreams you experience are simply the result of eating too close to bedtime. And supposed visions can likewise be dangerous: There's a thin line between them and hallucinations.

Be careful about allowing dreams, visions, fleeces, Bible roulette, and coins to be your criteria. Make sure there is reinforcing biblical evidence, the kind you'll find in my article. These extraordinary methods people use to determine God's will are often reserved for when He speaks to chosen prophets. If that's not you just yet, take a moment now to discover some dependable, biblical, and commonsense ways to discern the will of our Creator. 



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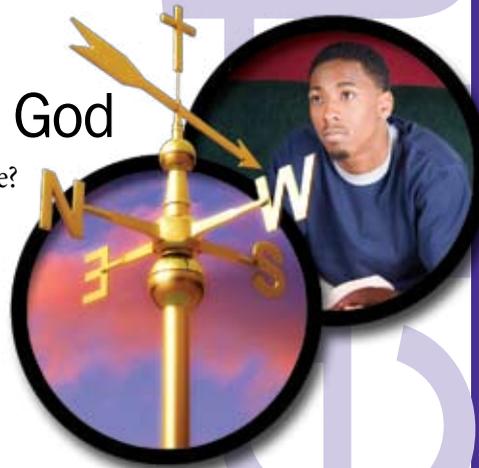
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Boldly Sounding the Trumpet of Truth

I am so thankful to the Lord for your ministry team. I have been with you guys since 1998, and I love the sermons and the *Amazing Facts Presents* series. . . . I know there is no time to waste by not seeking the Lord. Proclaim the gospel, Pastor Doug, and keep the torch lit and the banner up. Boldly sound the trumpet. People are listening with itching ears for God's truth. *Louisiana*

I have been truly blessed by the Amazing Facts ministry. I have read all of your online library books and all of the old sermons by Joe Crews. I have also purchased books and DVDs to provide some support. Please don't stop giving the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. We absolutely need a ministry like this at this time in world history. Jesus is truly soon to return, and He will find faith in this ministry. Keep up the good work! *Maryland*

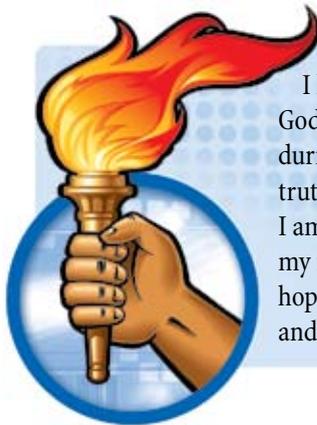
A Late-Night Blessing

I have been watching Amazing Facts TV online on a regular basis since March. What a blessing! I am 64 and do not sleep well some nights, so I turn on my computer and listen to my heart's content. Thank you so much for this wonderful 24/7 biblical truth! *Email*



Remaining True

It is so comforting to hear messages that are not meant merely to be pleasing to the ear, especially today. It is discouraging to hear ministers who cater to what they think people want to hear for the sake of numbers, rather than preaching the truth and allowing the Holy Spirit to do its work in the hearts of the people. . . . Remain true and faithful, for there are many who receive spiritual strength through your faithfulness. *Alabama*



Website Resources

Thank you so much for your ministry and the many resources the Lord is providing through you. We have been supporters for some time, but today I appreciate it even more. . . . I am so thankful for all the websites you have. I have many people ask me questions about what we believe. Now I have a very simple way to direct them to the truth. Also, the links to all your video series have been a priceless blessing to us. We are going through some struggles in our local church and having these resources to reaffirm our faith and remind us that we are not alone has been very encouraging. *Email*

CARRYING THE TORCH

I have been watching Emanuel Baek's prophecy seminar, and God has been opening my eyes to truth. Praise God for His mercy during this dark hour and providing messengers to deliver His truth so we who are asleep can awaken to light and carry the torch. I am asking the Lord to help me be bold and share this truth with my family and friends. My church is spiritually asleep; it is my hope that God will use me in a mighty way to awaken my brothers and sisters. We all need to be ready. *California*

Online Library Ministry

Thank you, Amazing Facts, for having great influence in our lives as we continue to study through the power of the internet. We are now seriously looking at starting an independent literature ministry here in Port Moresby. Your free books are proving very successful, and we will continue to distribute them as long as we possibly can! *Papua New Guinea*

Teaming Up With You

I thank God for the existence of your organization. It warms my heart to know that you are blessing a lot of people (only God knows how many), including myself. Through you, hope is shining to the ends of the earth. A couple years ago, I sent copies of *Final*



Events DVD to Africa. Recently, I got reports that people have been and are being blessed by them. Thank you very much! *Maryland*

The *Inside Report* welcomes all correspondence regarding Amazing Facts. Letters and other materials may be used — in whole or in part and edited for content and clarity — in future ministry publications. **If Amazing Facts has helped change your life for Christ, please write us at testimonies@amazingfacts.org!**

24/7

24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Work. Family. Friends. Errands. A hectic life with everything but God. And she has no idea how to make it better.

Amazing Facts can show her how by sharing the truth about the seventh-day Sabbath.

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— Gary

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PARTNERS
IN EVANGELISM



Determining the Will of God

by Pastor Doug Batchelor

An Amazing Fact: In 1692, the city of Port Royal, Jamaica, literally slid into the sea when it was struck by a massive earthquake. Many had predicted that this corrupt city of pirates and cutthroats would one day suffer God's judgment. Therefore, the disaster surprised no one, least of all the handful of religious men who were swept to their doom along with the wicked. One such man was Lewis Galdy. When the first violent shock came, Galdy was buried deep beneath the earth. Amazingly, he remained conscious and understood what had happened. In prayer, he resigned himself to the will of God. But a few moments later, another earthquake threw Galdy high in the air and out over the churning sea. He landed unhurt in the water and swam until a boat picked him up.



The safest place in the world to be is in the middle of God's will.

It doesn't matter if you are surrounded by war, typhoons, tornados, volcanos, or earthquakes; if you're in the middle of God's will, you have nothing to worry about. The Bible says, "The world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever" (1 John 2:17 NKJV). If you are following God's will, you have eternal life.

As a pastor, I often hear the questions: "How do I know that I'm doing what God wants me to do? How do I determine the will of God for my life?" These are very good questions. In fact, they're the most important questions you can ask. Why? Because Jesus taught us to say "Thy will be done."

Of course, we all must abide by the general principles regarding the will of God, which are universal. It is God's will for everyone to be holy, loving, and true. But the Lord also has individual plans for each person that are as varied and unique as snowflakes.

Where Do We Begin?

We face a lot of big decisions in our lifetimes. When young people get out of high school, they have to ask: "What college will I attend? What will I study? Will I even go?" Then they

must decide about a job and a spouse. “What job should I pursue? Who am I going to marry? Should I marry at all?”

Before we get into determining what God would have you do in any given circumstance, let’s deal with some basics. First and foremost, it is God’s will for you to be saved. The Lord is “not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance” (2 Peter 3:9). What you are doing in life as a vocation should take a back seat if you don’t have a saving relationship with Jesus Christ.

Second, when a natural disaster strikes, insurance companies often refer to it as “an act of God.” That’s not always true. Not everything that happens is the will of God. Even though God is not willing that any should perish, some are going to perish. Obviously, you and I have also done things in our lives that were out of God’s will.

Besides, why would He tell us to pray that His will be done if it is always done anyway? That’s why we should be *pursuing* the will of God in our lives. Because God’s will doesn’t always happen, we have to do our best to search out — and be in — God’s will for the sake of His kingdom.

So I’m going to give you a brief list that will help you determine God’s will in your life. This list comes from those whom I respect the most: the Holy Spirit speaking through the Bible, great Bible scholars and commentators, and friends and fellow pastors. I believe this list is both grounded in the Word of God and everyday common sense.

Be Willing and Surrendered

The first step is the most important and often the most difficult: Be willing and surrendered. John 7:17 says, “If anyone wants to do His will, he shall know concerning the doctrine, whether it is from God or whether I speak on My own authority” (NKJV). God will let you know His will — *if you are truly willing to do it once you know what it is. Ask God to give you a submissive and willing heart.*

Moreover, surrender yourself to Jesus before expecting Him to lead you some place to work on His behalf. If your heart is in a state of rebellion and you’re not surrendered, why would God show you His will? All He would do is add to your compounded guilt.

I especially like this simple prayer, “Lord, you be the needle, I’ll be the thread. You go first, and I’ll follow wherever you lead.”



That’s the kind of humble attitude we need to discern God’s will. (See Psalm 25:9.) You might not like what He’s about to show you, but make up your mind that by His grace you will do it before you even know what it is.

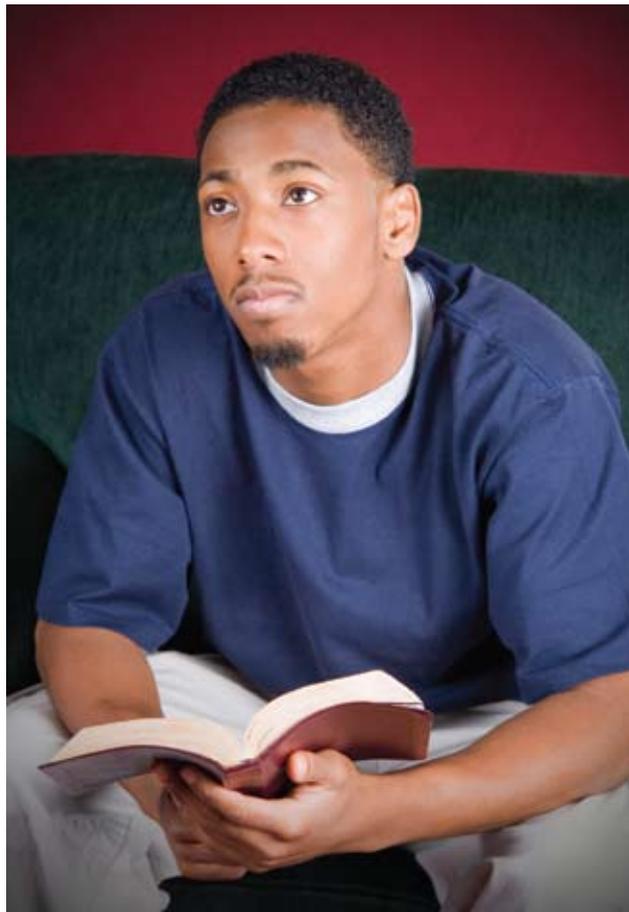
Be Guided by His Word

“Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path” (Psalm 119:105). When you are searching for God’s will, you need to open the Bible even more than you normally would. Ask God to help you find specific guidance for your life in His Word.

Sometimes, it’s possible to find out what the Bible says on the exact options you’re considering. Indeed, the Word has a lot of practical things to say about God’s will. For starters, the law of God can help you discern whether He wants you to do one thing or another. That can mean an emphatic

“yes” or “no” found right in the commandments.

As a pastor, I’m still surprised that a lot of married Christians wonder, “Should I leave my spouse and go off with another person?” They might say, “It just feels so right. We can see God’s blessing. We see this as God’s will for us.” But this isn’t something you need to pray about. The answer is right in the Ten Commandments. God has clearly told His people never to do this kind of thing. “I delight to do thy will, . . . thy law is within my heart” (Psalm 40:8).





called you friends, for all things that I heard from My Father I have made known to you” (NKJV). If you want to know the will of God, be a friend of God. How do you become His friend? You talk to Him. Friends talk about their plans together, so spend time praying and talking to the Lord. God reveals His will to His friends and servants.

In addition to prayer, your discernment of God’s will might include fasting, which is a deeper level of seeking clarity. In 2 Chronicles 20, when Israel was surrounded by her enemies, Jehoshaphat commanded the people to fast and pray. In response to their obedience, God gave the nation guidance and deliverance. Fasting often clears the mind and helps us separate the carnal desires from spiritual priorities. Put more simply, the radio reception improves.

Consider Christian Counsel

“Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counselors there is safety” (Proverbs 11:14). When searching for God’s will, find others who have good judgment and will be honest with you.

What kind of counselors? “Do not be deceived: ‘Evil company corrupts good habits’” (1 Corinthians 15:33 NKJV). In other words, don’t get counsel from people whose lives are a disaster; they’re probably not in the best position to give you advice.

However, godly friends can help you take honest inventory of yourself and discover your gifts and talents. They might point you in a direction you weren’t even considering. Growing up, no one thought I was going to be a pastor. It didn’t occur to me when I became a believer. But when I started giving Bible studies to friends, more and more people I respected said, “Doug, have you considered the ministry? We think you have a gift in that area.” So through collective counsel of godly people, I moved in this direction. God will do the same for you, if you ask Him.

Pray (and Fast)

“This is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us: And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him” (1 John 5:14, 15). When you want to know God’s will, you need to pray He will guide you. But you also need to harmonize your requests with His will.

In John 15:15, Jesus says, “No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have

Glorify God and Don’t Be Selfish

“Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God” (1 Corinthians 10:31). When you are seeking after God’s will, make sure you avoid options that don’t glorify Him. If one of your options is going to harm His kingdom, then it is the wrong option. (See Matthew 6:33.)

In every decision, ask, “Lord, is this going to reach more people for you? What will make the biggest impact for your kingdom?” This is a vital factor in your decision process. It is part of loving God with all your heart, mind, soul, and strength.

And much like considering God’s glory in our decisions, we need to remember the effect it will have on our neighbors — whether that’s our spouse, parents, children, or whoever. “None of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself” (Romans 14:7).

I’m always saddened when I hear people trying to make a decision about their life, and all they’re saying is, “What is this



going to mean for me?" Instead, they need to be thinking of their families and how their decision is going to affect those around them. Galatians 5:14 says, "All the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." It's a sign of true conversion when someone isn't always saying, "What's in it for me?"

Be Patient and Faithful

"We count them happy which endure. Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy" (James 5:11). In deciding the will of God, you must be patient.

Sometimes we become restless and want to do just about anything but keep guessing at what we should do. We want to act sooner than later, but sometimes God wants you to wait. Believe me, you're better off waiting for God's will having the right job, the right spouse, or the right school than rushing ahead of the Lord and having the wrong job, the wrong spouse, or the wrong school. You're going to be miserable if you aren't patient.

In fact, apparent delays could mean that rather than you picking an option, God's will is coming to you special delivery. You just need to stay where you are and watch what happens. God could be saying, "Stay right there. I'm going to change everything without you doing anything."

"Whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men" (Colossians 3:23). But while you're waiting patiently for new directions, continue to do the work at hand with all your heart. Many fail to fulfill the present will of God for their lives because they are too busy longing for something different.

Tally the Evidence

"In the mouth of two or three witnesses shall every word be established" (2 Corinthians 13:1). When you first turn on a GPS device, it can't tell you immediately your location or which way you need to go. You need to wait a moment as the device begins to acquire satellites. But you'll notice that it will often say "awaiting more satellites" or "awaiting better accuracy" even though it has already given you a path to go. As it picks up another satellite, it

will give you more accurate directions because it has "triangulated" your position.

It should work that way when you are trying to discover God's will. We've looked at a number of biblical criteria of how you can determine the will of God in any aspect of your life. Sometimes you are going to need a number of these criteria to overlap, to "triangulate," before you can truly see where God is pointing you.

Make a list. Ask yourself, "What does God's Word say?" If the answer isn't as obvious as you think you need, ask, "What do my counselors say?" and "Which one of my choices truly glorifies God?" Keep tallying the results until you have a decision you can stand on firmly.

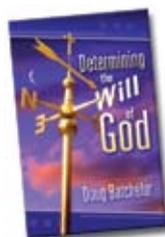
The Perfect Will of God

Romans 12:2 says, "Be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God." Many otherwise faithful Christians are finding themselves doing the imperfect will of God. They are restless and unhappy. As a result, they aren't being the consistent witness God knows they could be.

Even though we're separated from God because of sin, He has given us a way to discover His will — and the power to do it. Eventually, everyone in heaven will be doing the perfect will of

God. If we want to be there, we must start practicing right now!

Is your life off track? Are you struggling to make the right decision? Are you afraid of where God might lead you — out of your comfort zone and into a strange land? Remember always that God doesn't want what's worst for you; He wants what's best for you. You've got to trust Him that in the end, you'll always be happier being in the middle of His will. Be pliable clay in the Potter's hands and keep calibrating. Not only will you have joy in heaven; you'll have it right here on earth. 



Want to learn more? Look for Pastor Doug's new pocket book, with much more biblical insight on discovering God's will for your life!

Coming soon!

Amazing Facts

A Church-Based Ministry

by Jean Ross, Director of Empowered Church

“When I first started watching Amazing Facts and Pastor Doug, I never thought that I would ever attend church,” Jeanne says. “I wondered what it would be like to be there in person, as part of the congregation. But I felt too dirty to ever be in God’s house. Still, every time I saw the people in the pews, I dreamed that I was one of them.”

At Amazing Facts, it’s not uncommon for our staff to receive a letter like this. We don’t have specific numbers on how many other viewers feel the same, but we do know that there is something about seeing real people in a congregation that draws viewers in and keeps them coming back for more time in God’s Word.

Jeanne’s Story

At first, Jeanne had a hard time accepting the message she heard on the Amazing Facts broadcasts. Not long ago, she shared her story with our staff — who shed tears with her as she opened up about her difficult life.



Jeanne (left) with her son Chuck and mother Helen.

“I was born in a little town in Michigan, the third of four children. We had little money. There was no running water in the house and no inside bathroom. We went to one grandmother’s house for water and to my other grandmother’s house for food.



“My childhood is difficult to talk about. My father was very abusive. In addition, my older brother Leslie, with whom I was very close, was killed in a car accident when I was eight. My mother finally made my father leave when I was 14, but the cycle of abuse continued after I got married at 16.

“My husband was cruel to me and our children. When I was pregnant with my fifth child, he beat me so severely that I spent six months in the hospital. When I was released from the hospital, I discovered that my four other children had been taken by the state because they had been left alone for three days. I was never allowed to see them again.

“My one son who was with me, Chuck, got involved with the wrong crowd from an early age. I didn’t know how to be a good mother, so he made some bad choices. At 19, he went to prison.

“My one son who was with me, Chuck, got involved with the wrong crowd from an early age. I didn’t know how to be a good mother, so he made some bad choices. At 19, he went to prison.



“But soon after his release, he began watching Pastor Doug Batchelor on television. I could see a change in him. He didn’t use foul language anymore, and he was more concerned about his health. I could tell he wanted to have Jesus in his life.

“As time passed, Chuck started taking Bible studies and began attending Pastor Doug’s church. He encouraged me to watch the TV programs and then come to church with him. Even though I felt unworthy, I finally gathered the courage to attend. I was nervous, but the members made me feel very welcome. I also liked what I heard, yet it was hard for me to really believe that Jesus could ever forgive me for all I had done in my life.

“When I finally accepted Jesus and was baptized, it was like I was a newborn baby. I knew I had been forgiven; I was so happy. It felt like the world had been taken off my shoulders and all my shame seemed to melt away.”

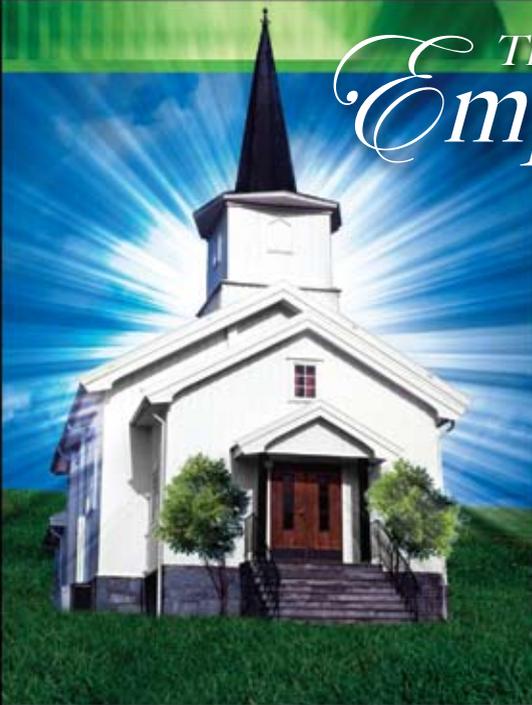
Tragically, Chuck passed away suddenly just before he had planned to be baptized. That was another blow to Jeanne, but this time she had a church family and a Savior to hold on to. For the first time, she had hope.

Helping Thousands Find a Church to Call Home

At Amazing Facts, our first objective is to reach searching hearts and plant seeds that the Holy Spirit can grow. We must then ground people in the Word as they accept the gift of salvation. For their Christian growth to be complete, we direct our Bible School students and others to a church near their home. There, they can be a part of a body of believers, find acceptance, and be encouraged in their walk with God.

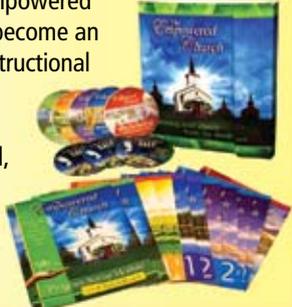
For some like Jeanne, it is difficult to make that step to attend or join a church. That’s why her story, like many others, confirms the effectiveness of a church-based media ministry like Amazing Facts, where viewers can be drawn in and grow more comfortable with the church environment.

Indeed, there is a good chance our viewers will eventually begin coming to your church. Perhaps some already have. May God richly bless your church as you warmly welcome them to the body of Christ! 



The Empowered Church

The Empowered Church is an exciting new program that will propel your church’s outreach efforts to the next level! Our Empowered Church Kit has all the tools your church needs to become an evangelism powerhouse, with training manuals, instructional DVDs, outreach tools, and much more — all designed to help your church set up an ongoing evangelism cycle. With a strong emphasis on revival, training, and discipleship, your church members will maximize their spiritual gifts in a united, coordinated soul-winning effort to become a powerful witness for Christ in your community.



In addition to the Empowered Church Kit, Amazing Facts also offers additional Empowered Church services.

LEVEL 1 churches receive an Empowered Church training intensive weekend, which will jump-start your church’s implementation of the Empowered Church program.

LEVEL 2 churches receive the training intensive weekend AND one year of coaching from an Empowered Church coach, helping your church create an ongoing evangelism cycle.

LEVEL 3 churches receive the training intensive weekend, one year of coaching, AND an Empowered Church Bible worker for six months.

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BIBLE Answers



with Pastor Doug Batchelor

Q A

What is the best way to fast? Should we go without food *and* water?

First, as you consider fasting, if you have any unusual health issues, you need to consult with your physician before proceeding. Most people experience several health benefits by occasionally fasting for a day or a meal, but for some — for instance, those with diabetes or naturally low blood sugar — a fast of just a few hours can have severe health consequences. Be sure you know what your body can handle!

However, for people with generally good health, fasting is a positive biblical discipline taught in both the Old and New Testaments. Mentioned more than 140 times, fasting offers great spiritual and physical benefits. For instance, throughout my life, I have fasted at various times, usually in association with some focused prayer objective, and have received many wonderful blessings. Likewise, you will find several types of fasting in the Bible, each performed for different reasons.

What we commonly regard as “fasting” is a total abstinence from food. An example of this is Jesus’ 40-day fast in Luke 4:2. “In those days he did eat nothing; and when they were ended, he afterward hungered.” Please note that the Bible does not indicate Jesus abstained from drinking water. You will need to drink plenty of water during your fasts!

However, there are very rare times in the Bible when someone briefly engages in an extreme fast and goes without consuming food or water, such as Paul, after he was blinded on the road to Damascus, and Esther, when all Jews were under a death decree. Ezra and Mordecai also briefly fasted in this way. Finally, there was Moses who, when receiving the Ten Commandments, was miraculously sustained without food or water because he was in the very presence of God.

In Daniel 10:3, the prophet performed another kind of fast, which consisted of not eating pleasant things. Instead of a total abstinence from food, he restricted his diet to basic natural foods. For us this might mean giving up refined food and sweets. Note also that Daniel received a tremendous blessing even without a total fast — an angel appeared to him.

If you have never fasted, I recommend you start small. Your first fast might consist of skipping a meal — the last meal of the day being the best one to skip. Then you might graduate to abstaining from food for a day. Whatever you do, drink plenty of water. And if you feel light-headed, you might drink

Tune in to *Bible Answers Live*, Amazing Facts’ live, nationwide call-in radio program, and listen to Pastor Doug give biblical, straightforward answers to difficult Bible questions. To get times and stations in your area, or to listen to answers online, visit www.amazingfacts.org. You can also request a free program guide by phone or mail.

a bit of fruit juice before you drive. (See 1 Samuel 14:29.)

In the New Testament, we also find that some couples might mutually agree to abstain — or fast — from marital intimacy along with their food fast so that they “may devote yourselves to prayer” (1 Corinthians 7:5). There seems to be a biblical principle in refraining from other physical desires while seeking a spiritual benefit as well.

After having covered some different kinds of fasting, let’s now consider a matter that was very important to Jesus. “When you fast, do not be like the hypocrites, with a sad countenance. For they disfigure their faces that they may appear to men to be fasting. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. But you, when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, so that you do not appear to men to be fasting, but to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly” (Matthew 6:16–18).

When fasting, we should not grandstand for friends, family, or other members of the congregation. It is an experience between you and the Lord. Be very careful to understand why you are fasting. Humans can be very prideful creatures, and what might start out as a genuine experience could quickly turn into a matter of parading our piety.

Also, people can sometimes become grumpy when they don’t eat on a regular schedule. Pray God’s Spirit will compensate and help you be cheerful with those around you.

Finally, just as crucial to the method of fasting, if not more important, is the reason behind fasting. In the Bible, God’s faithful turned to fasting as a sign of repentance, as a way to know His will, and as an intervention in the lives of souls captive to the devil.

I encourage you to participate in occasional fasting, if your body and mind allows it, as part of your Christian walk. It’s healthy for many people, as it clears the mind and body. That’s really the whole idea — to present your mind and body as a clean, living sacrifice before the Lord. 

WHAT DO Your Feet LOOK LIKE?

by Brod Boyd, Media Director

As a young preacher with an “old” spirit, I could spend an hour in the pulpit dissecting the truths contained in Romans 10:13–15:

“Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!”

The first words of this verse contain a wonderful promise for all people. Yet the promise is conditional: We must call on the name of the Lord. We must believe. Yet the verse goes even further, asking, how can souls call on the Lord if they don’t even believe in Him? And how can they know what to believe if no one will tell them?

In this technological age, Amazing Facts has been sent to share the gospel of peace and glad tidings to a suffering world. The media department serves as one of our most effective “sharing arms,” using a three-pronged approach — television, radio, and the internet — to reach lost and hurting souls. Every day, we see how the Lord is using this ministry through letters, emails, and phone calls with prayer requests and wonderful testimonies, reminding us that we have a Father in heaven who is truly engaged in our day-to-day thoughts, concerns, and emotions.

Let’s now discover how the media department is helping to answer the question: How shall they believe?

Television

As I travel to various meetings and in various circles, I often hear about the “evils” of television. Let me be bold: The television set is not evil! What you watch can be evil, but Amazing Facts is using television to share God’s message with the church and un-church in their homes on a global scale. We currently offer three programs with the sole purpose of sharing Christ:

Amazing Facts Presents: Our flagship program, with evangelism at its core, is reaching a potential worldwide

audience of nearly 2 billion. This 30-minute broadcast covers everything from prophecy to marriage and health to salvation, connecting to both the “old-time religion” crowd and new believers. Bible truths are presented in a clear and concise manner that lifts the mind toward heaven.

(Let me get a little analytical for a moment.) The year 2008 has been a record-setting year for program response — up 34 percent from 2007. We’ve reached more souls this year than ever before in our history. Jesus is coming soon, and many are seeking to find whom they should believe in.

Central Study Hour: Our one-hour program has become a mainstay in many homes and churches. Church members around the world tell us that they tune in on Friday night and Sabbath mornings. It is our most downloaded program on our website, and various church groups actually show *Central Study Hour* during their Sabbath programs. It is very helpful for small groups without a pastor and serves as a supplement for worship leaders.

Everlasting Gospel: Our one-hour church program consists of messages from a pastor to his local church, but congregations from the global community have been blessed as well. A practical approach to the gospel is the series’ underlying theme, and it’s a much-loved feature on our ministry website.

Radio

Two out of our five weekly media programs are featured on radio, an Amazing Facts’ ministry that started with one of the founders of Amazing Facts, Joe Crews — who can still be heard in many markets and on our website. Other programs include:

Bible Answers Live: What can we say about our live one-hour call-in program? God is good! Hosted by Pastor Doug at

Continued on page 24.

AFCOE TO GO

Sets Record Attendance!

By Wes Peppers
AFCOE Outreach Coordinator



“The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest” (Matthew 9:37, 38).

Even though the ministry marriage of Amazing Facts and the Weimar Center of Health & Education is relatively new, God’s blessing on the union has already been made evident.

One of the most exciting things to have happened is at the new Weimar College, where another eventful AFCOE to Go class was held this past June. In just its third session, more than 80 students from around the world — including Canada, India, England, Korea, Australia, and other countries — gathered for the four-day intensive training with Amazing Facts staff and guest speakers.

Getting Serious About the Final Work

This class set a new record for AFCOE to Go attendance, with twice as many students as the course held at the beginning of the year. It was also attended by more professionals than ever, including physicians, dentists, nurses, and educators. Plus, college students are coming during their summer break to learn how to better share Christ.

With perilous signs all around, including a weakening economy, rising oil prices, increasing natural disasters, and recent religious activity in America making headlines, people are recognizing that the final events of prophecy are rapidly being fulfilled. Many souls are arising from the slumber of Laodicea and are sensing

a burden to be trained to witness and work for Christ in these final hours. They are finding the skills they need to be effective soul-winners at the Amazing Facts Center of Evangelism.

“I am not the same person I was when I came here. My love for God and His cause has grown, and I know that I am closer to Him.”

—Robert Gonzales, Arizona

“I believe that Jesus is coming very soon, and I wanted to be equipped as a witness for Christ in these last days,” says Norma, a student. “I want to take as many people to heaven with me as I can, and I don’t have time to do much else!” That’s why Norma was at AFCOE to Go, and she left with exactly what she came for: skills she will use to be an effective witness for

Christ to anyone, anytime, anywhere — for the rest of her life.

Perhaps you have also been sensing God’s calling in your life to do something for Him, but you feel inadequately prepared to do it. That’s okay! Most of the people who come to AFCOE feel the same way. Indeed, even Moses, Elijah, and Paul felt unprepared. But they didn’t stay that way! They allowed God to first change their hearts and then equip them to do the work He called them to do. And even though we might all have different professions, we are all called to serve as missionaries. AFCOE can help you gain the confidence you need to serve and give you a sense of purpose and direction in your calling.

Anyone Can Come

With AFCOE’s reputation of strong Bible-based evangelism instruction, it’s appealing to young people who are serious about witnessing for Christ. Christine explains, “I’m only 18 and have just graduated from high school and am planning for

“This has been a spiritual mountaintop experience for me.”

—Steven Vermaas,
South Dakota

college. AFCOE to Go has given me the confidence that I can be a witness for Christ no matter if I'm on a college campus or in my professional career."

Yet AFCOE to Go isn't just for young people. Laypersons of all ages, careers, and backgrounds are taking advantage of this special training. "I can't wait to go back to my home church to share and put into action what I have learned here," says an older student who believes the class helped her in her personal walk

with Christ. "Many of these classes were more than just lectures. They were stories shared from the hearts of the instructors in their

"AFCOE encouraged me to follow through with the work in ministry God has laid on my heart."

—David Clemente, Nevada

personal experiences in evangelism. They brought tears to my eyes and touched my heart. There was a consistent emphasis on growth in our individual lives, which I desperately needed. I am so thankful to have attended."

Whether you are a high school graduate headed for college or are already working in a successful career, if you are sensing God's call to ministry, AFCOE is likely the place for you!

Are You Ready?

As you look at the world around you and compare it to your Bible, you know that Christ is about to come. That's good news! But what is your personal relationship with Jesus like? Are you ready for Him to come? If not, what keeps you from being ready? I urge you to surrender it to Him today. His heart aches with a longing to see everyone respond to His love as the final call goes out to humanity.

Not only does He want our hearts prepared, He wants to use us to help others prepare too. If God has been calling you to get involved in the work of soul-winning, why not heed that call and surrender your service to Him? If you sense a need for training, why not consider coming to AFCOE's one-week or four-month program? The training you receive could help you reach a family member, friend, or co-worker and lead them to a decision for Jesus.

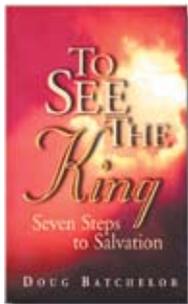
Student Glenn Quinones puts it this way: "Want to save a friend? Go to AFCOE. Want to influence someone for eternity? Go to AFCOE. Want to powerfully impact your own spiritual walk? Go to AFCOE." Glenn and others like him are answering the prayer of Jesus for laborers to reap the harvest. Will you also be an answer to that prayer? What a blessing to be in heaven rejoicing for all eternity with those who God used you to reach for His kingdom! I can't imagine any greater reward than that.

Go to www.afcoe.org today to discover how God can effectively equip you as a soldier of truth in these last days. You'll be amazed at the incredible educational experience you'll receive for such a small financial investment! 

"This has been one of the most spiritually fulfilling weeks of my entire life."

—Craig Carter, California





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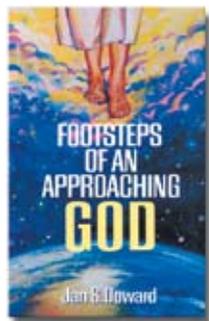
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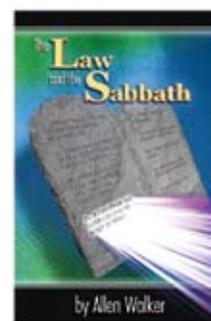
Jan S. Doward. Shows why we must turn our attention away from this crumbling world and focus on the only One who can bring peace out of chaos.

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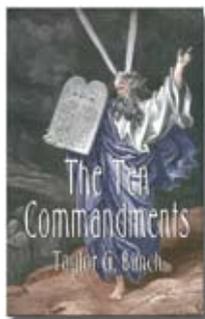
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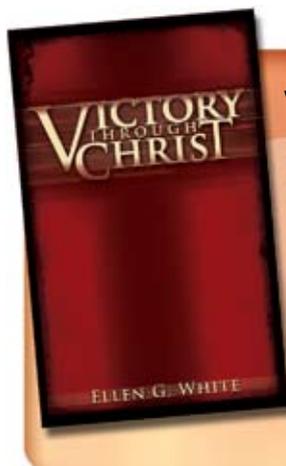
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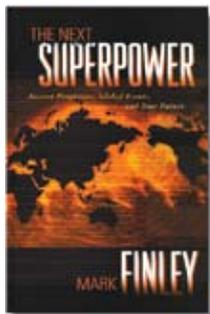
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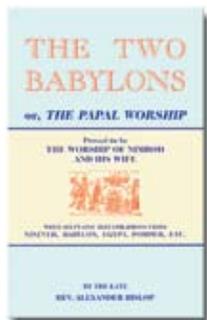
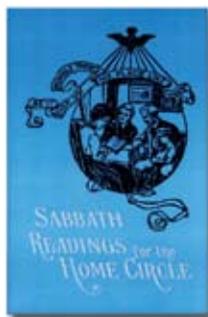
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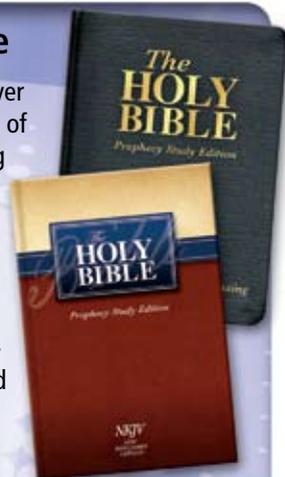
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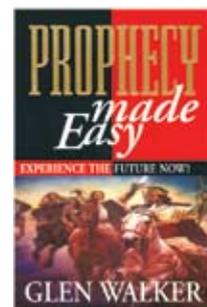
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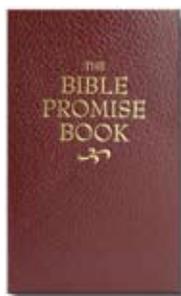
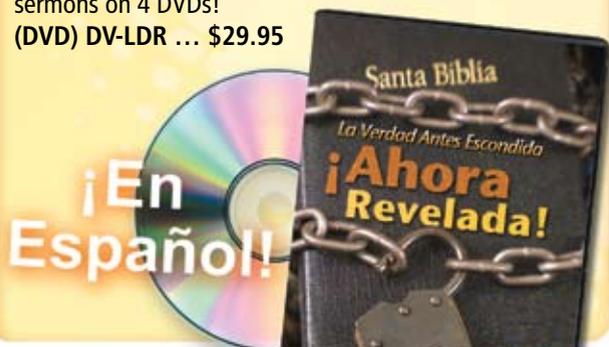
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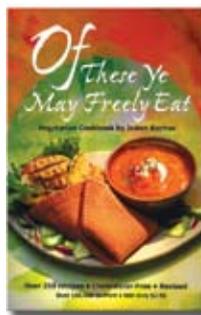
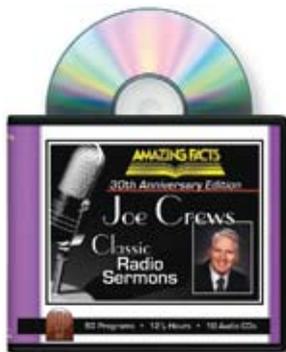


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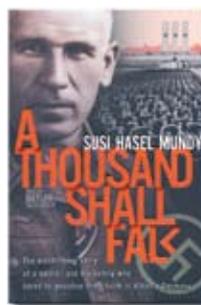
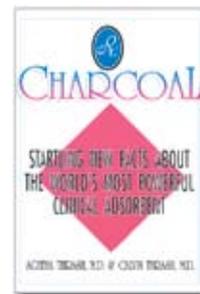


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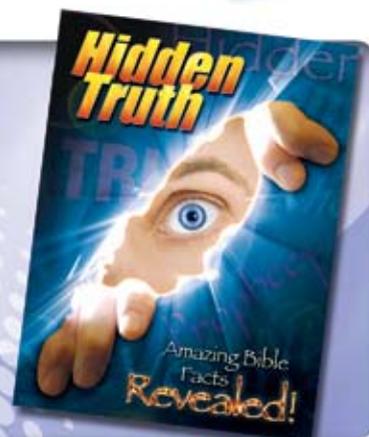


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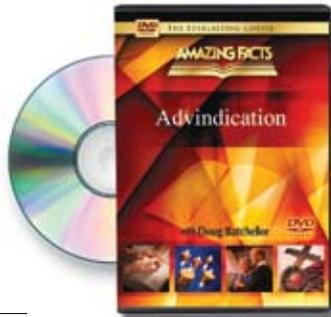
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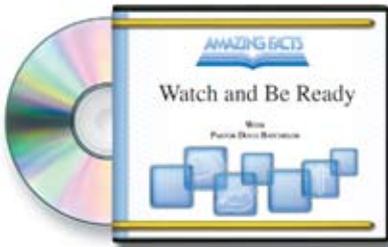
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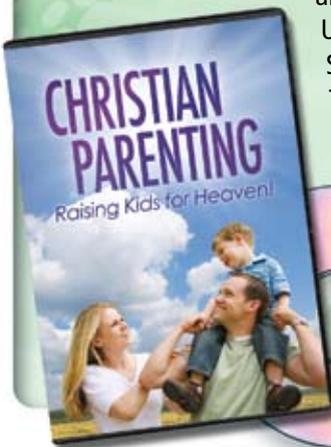
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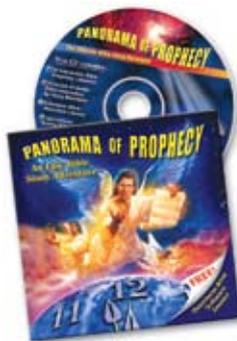
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Call 318-640-3458 for details.

Darrin Bartell

September 5 - October 4
Ashland City Church Auditorium
114 Ruth Drive
Ashland City, Tennessee

October 24 - November 22
Church Auditorium
Route 12 North, Leominster Rd.
Sterling, Massachusetts

January 9 - February 14, 2009
Arkadelphia, Arkansas
Call 870-828-0022 for details.

Eric Flickinger

September 3 - October 11
Destiny Center
4401 Northern Blvd NE
Rio Rancho, New Mexico

October 24 - November 29
Sidney, British Columbia
Call 250-656-2225 for details.

February 27 - April 4, 2009
New Orleans, Louisiana
Call 504-885-7000 for details.

Lowell Hargreaves

September 5 - October 11
October 24 - November 29
Duna Conference, Hungary
Email rilona@mail.europrofil.hu
for details.

Brian McMahon

October 11 - November 8
Lelia Patterson Center
1111 Howard Gap Road
Fletcher, North Carolina

Jason Morgan

September 5 - October 11
Las Cruces, New Mexico
Call 256-443-9391 for details.

Jason Morgan continued

October 24 - November 29
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada
Call 780-965-3289 for details.

January 9 - February 14
Burlington, Washington
Call 360-757-7577 for details.

Jack Pefley

September 8 - October 4
Victorian Inn
2021 Main Street
Weaverville, California

October 13 - November 15
Citrus Heights, California
Call 916-723-7777 for details.

Jack Pefley continued

February 2 - March 7
Truth or Consequences
New Mexico
Call 505-894-9829 for details.

Jason Sliger

September 5 - October 4
Church Auditorium
100 Highland Circle Drive
Portland, Tennessee

October 24 - November 22
Brighton, Colorado
Call 303-659-1999 for details.

Dennis Priebe *Revivalist*

September 20
Portola Sabbath School, California
Call 530-832-4988 for details.

You are invited to meet the members
of our dynamic evangelism team at our
many seminars and revivals throughout
the year — and please invite a friend!

Go to www.AmazingFacts.org to get
exact times and locations!



Doug
Batchelor



Emanuel
Baek



Darrin
Bartell



Eric
Flickinger



Lowell
Hargreaves



Brian
McMahon



Jason
Morgan



Jack
Pefley



Dennis
Priebe



Jason
Sliger



Symbols with a black circle are
detailed above. Symbols without it
will be detailed in upcoming magazines
as the dates draw closer. Check our website for
more information, as not all locations are marked.



ON THE ROAD WITH Lowell Hargreaves

Lowell Hargreaves, one of our traveling evangelists, shares thrilling news about lives being brought to the kingdom by the power of the Holy Spirit through Amazing Facts' prophecy seminars!



Greetings from the Hargreaves!

We recently finished a series in Springfield, Missouri, with eight baptisms; plus, eight more have expressed interest in baptism. Amen! But we want to share a particularly remarkable testimony about a man we met in Springfield — Jerry.

His son, Chris, came opening night and was thoroughly captivated by what he heard about the prophecies of Daniel. And when he walked into the children's room to pick up his three-year-old daughter after the meeting, he was even more impressed to discover she'd learned the same things on a child's level. Her craft showing the image of Daniel 2 was colored correctly, and she even knew what the rock represented!

Chris was excited, but also cautious. If this seminar was going to have this much impact on his family, he knew he'd better be sure that what he was hearing was correct. He telephoned his dad, who had always been a respected spiritual guardian for his family. Chris urged him to attend the next night. "I want to be sure that I'm not getting into the wrong thing," he told his father.

The next night, Jerry and a friend of his joined Chris at the seminar. After the meeting, Jerry told his son, "This is good! You don't have to be afraid of these meetings."

I got acquainted with Chris, Jerry, and other family members during that first week of presentations. That Friday, Jerry came to me after the message about the Ten Commandments and asked, "What do you think about the Sabbath? I looked up the word 'Sabbath' in the concordance, and there's a page-and-a-half of texts on it!"

"That's a good question," I replied. "But we're going to look very closely at that very issue in the next lesson."

Jerry went on to explain, "I've concluded that it doesn't matter which day you keep as long as you keep a Sabbath."

"We'll study that soon and see if you're right," I replied.

The next night, I presented the Bible truth about the Sabbath.

After the program, Jerry came to me again and said, "Well, I guess I got my answer. The Sabbath really is on Saturday. I had always kind of believed that, but what should I do about my business?" You see, Jerry owns a tire shop, and Saturday is the busiest day of the week. He told me that to close down on Saturday would do him in financially. I encouraged Jerry to pray about it, and put God first in his life and business.

About a week later, Jerry came back with an update. "I have my answer, and that's to close my business on the Sabbath." He told me that he had shared his problem of how to keep the Sabbath with a client of his, and the client had a solution that would honor his faith. The plan was

to stay open an extra two hours each day of the week, which would provide the extra time and income to keep his business up and running.

Preparing for God's Special Forces

Yet later in the seminar, Jerry requested a private visit with me. He told me that even though he'd been seeking to do God's will, he felt "distant" from God. I suggested he take some time with God in prayer, asking God to reveal what was



Lowell tells it like it is!

preventing him from experiencing His abiding presence.

The next night, Jerry came back “on fire.” He had taken my suggestion seriously, and late the previous night, as he was wrestling with God in prayer, he was distinctly impressed that God wanted him to leave his business and go into missions or ministry. “I’ll go where you want me to go, Lord,” was Jerry’s decision.

The next question, of course, was what and where?

Soon after, Jerry requested another special visit, this time with Pastor Robb Long, the local pastor, and myself, to discuss mission opportunities. He had already made his decision to be baptized and accept the truths he had discovered during the evangelistic series. But after that, he wanted to know where he could serve. After discussing various options, we concluded that the best place for Jerry to start was at the Amazing Facts Center of Evangelism (AFCOE). This powerful training center would help equip him for God’s service either at home or abroad.

Jerry has a colorful background: special operations with the U.S. military, a counter-terrorism agent and instructor, and a businessman. But through everything he has ever done, he has always been on a quest to find the truth — and to find a church that teaches and follows the truth.

He now believes that God used Amazing Facts to lead him to the truth and join a Sabbath-keeping church. Now his desire is to be trained for “special operations” in missions and soul-winning for God’s army at AFCOE!

Another Miracle in Ankeny

In February, we began a series in Ankeny, Iowa, with the threat of a winter storm. By God’s grace, we had good

weather the first two nights of the meeting, which are crucial to the success of a meeting.

But then the storm hit with snow, wind, and bitter cold. Unfortunately, the extreme weather cut our attendance in half; however, when church members and guests alike asked if we were going to cancel the meeting because of the weather, we assured them that as long as the roads were open, we’d continue forward sharing the truth from God’s Word.

Amazingly, on the third night, despite the horrible weather, we had 40 visitors — not counting the church members who joined us!

Among that group who braved the conditions were a mother and daughter who had come the first two nights. Sandy, the mother, told me opening night that she had been praying that she’d be able to convince her daughter, Ginger, to attend. Ginger had never accepted Christ and been baptized.

The two, who lived together, attended faithfully for about two weeks. Sandy knew a little about baptism and was anxious that her daughter be baptized. Ginger asked us to explain more about baptism early in the series, and we told her that we’d study that topic carefully a little later.

Then sickness struck, and they were absent for more than a week. We thought one of the topics might have turned them away. When we finally made contact with them, they assured us that sickness is what had prevented them from attending, and that they’d be back soon.

Sure enough, they returned and were faithful for the rest of the series. And more than that, they did the Amazing Facts Study Guides and listened to CDs to get caught up with the topics they’d missed.

And we are thrilled to report that at the end of the series, Ginger was baptized and Sandy was re-baptized! Praise the Lord! 



Has God changed your life through Amazing Facts? Whether it was through a TV or radio broadcast, magazine or monthly letter, our websites or evangelistic meetings, we would love to hear your testimony. Please write to:

testimonies@amazingfacts.org



Timely

GIVING

Looking at the world around us, there can be little doubt that perilous times are at the door for the peacemakers of this world. Yet by God's grace, we've been given encouraging counsel for times such as these — for those of us who are prayerfully determining our important roles in supporting the Lord's work during these final opportunities of evangelism left on earth.



Writing 100 years ago, the Bible commentator Ellen White believed that in “the last extremity, before this work shall close, thousands will be cheerfully laid upon the altar. Men and women will feel it a blessed privilege to share in the work of preparing souls to stand in the great day of God” (*Historical Sketches*, p. 291).

She added, “It is now that our brethren should be cutting down their possessions instead of increasing them. We are about to move to a better country, even a heavenly. Let us not be dwellers upon the earth, but be getting things into as compact a compass as possible. The time is coming when we cannot sell at any price” (*Testimonies*, vol. 5, p.152).

It seems that the many friends of Amazing Facts are taking this powerful advice to heart.

This ministry is witnessing an increased interest in IRA and property donations from those who are seeing the value of these investments dropping in a struggling, chaotic economy and would like to do something eternally significant with them now.

THE BENEFITS OF AN IRA GIFT

Many of these friends are taking the opportunity to not only support the last-day work, but also secure their financial future by transferring IRA funds to Amazing Facts. By setting up an immediate or deferred gift annuity, they are locking in a fixed payout rate for life — while also receiving immediate tax benefits to help offset the distribution taken.

What about you? Together we've seen that there isn't a better or more significant time to stake your claim in what might be the last push for Christ's great commission. It's the perfect opportunity if you need to draw income from an IRA to support yourself for the future and you desire to make an eternal impact on God's kingdom in a significant way today!



TO BE CONTINUED ...

In the next issue of *Inside Report*, we'll explore even more timely counsel on how gifts in these last days can make a huge difference!

Until then, please contact our estate planning group at **1-800-436-2695, ext. 8**, or plannedgiving@amazingfacts.org to answer any questions you have regarding gifts to support the end-time evangelism of Amazing Facts.

Continued from page 13.

7 PM Pacific each Sunday, it's heard on hundreds of stations around the country and internationally. Callers pose some of the toughest questions about life and the Bible. If you haven't heard this program live, you've missed out on a tremendous treat.

One listener writes, "I started listening to *Bible Answers Live*. As I listen, I believe that Pastor Batchelor is teaching the truth from the Bible. . . . I am grateful that God has shown me the truth about the Sabbath, what happens when we die, and many other issues. This is very different from what I have been taught, but I want to know and follow God's will wherever it takes me."

Wonders in the Word: Our newest radio offering at Amazing Facts is this 30-minute daily radio program currently available on our website and in 86 markets. Barry, a radio executive for several stations airing *Wonders in the Word* says, "It is so refreshing to hear a message based on the Bible alone. I am so thankful that you aren't selling holy water or special prayer cloths!"

Internet

The Lord has blessed our internet ministries beyond our expectations. (Here are some more analytics.) Responses for our *Hidden Truth* magazine online advertisements are up 165 percent above last year. Yes — 165 percent!

Amazing Facts also started broadcasting on the popular YouTube site a year ago. Our programs have been viewed 68,000 times — strictly by word of mouth! "How shall they believe in whom they have not heard?" We are effectively supplementing traditional media efforts with the internet.

Spread the word to your computer-savvy friends — we're at Youtube.com/amazingfacts; Godtube.com/amazingfacts;

Facebook.com (search for Amazing Facts or Doug Batchelor); Lightsource.com (search for Amazing Facts); and Oneplace.com (*Bible Answers Live*).

This year, we also started a new effort with our very own 24/7 streaming TV site. All of our programs over the past 10 years are available as a resource to you. We are also adding programs from other prominent ministries proclaiming the three angels' messages of Revelation. You can view this beta site at www.AmazingFacts.tv.

Eric writes, "AmazingFactsTV is a wonderful website. This is an opportunity to introduce the message to many. I'm going to tell everyone I know to visit this website. This is a



wonderful witnessing tool. The stream is fast and clear. Finally, we can turn off the television and watch the message at our leisure. My family and I love it."

Multimedia

Every script written and every program produced within the media department is geared toward sharing the gospel. In addition to our regular broadcast, we've been incorporating a "film making" approach to our supplemental programs.



We started production on our follow-up to the very successful *Final Events* DVD. *The Cosmic Conflict: Origin of Evil* is scheduled for release the first quarter of 2009. This new project will address the fall of Lucifer and the fall of man. While we'll

answer the question of where evil came from, viewers will come to grips with the high cost of sin and the great sacrifice made on our behalf. Continue to check our website for updates.

Finally, on a regular basis, we pray together for all of our viewers. We also pray that God will enable us to share the gospel in the most relevant way in today's society. We are humbled to see God's mighty work being accomplished. As you know, this would not be possible without the generous support of all our volunteers and financial supporters. In fact, our weekly programs are staffed by volunteers operating cameras, audio equipment, and phones. Their help — and yours — is priceless.



I leave you with the closing words of our text: "How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!"

Now, what do your feet look like?

TV AND RADIO

BROADCAST SCHEDULE

Spiritually uplifting messages are available every day on Amazing Facts radio, television, and internet!

TV



You can also enjoy every Amazing Facts television and radio broadcast at www.AmazingFacts.org anytime, day or night!



Also check us out on YouTube and Lightsource.com

www.lightsource.com/ministry/amazing_facts
www.youtube.com/user/AmazingFacts



Heard about **Friday Night Live?**
Discover more at our website today!

RADIO

FREE PODCASTS!

Watch and listen to Pastor Doug anytime on your computer or MP3 player! Find out more online.



AMAZING FACTS PRESENTS

A weekly 30-minute program with Pastor Doug that explores the Bible in-depth, offering practical guidance into Christian living, prophecy, and more!

OCTOBER 5

FINAL EVENTS OF BIBLE PROPHECY

Join Pastor Doug Batchelor and co-host Dwight Nelson for a fascinating behind-the-scenes look at Bible prophecy and the *Final Events of Bible Prophecy* DVD!

OCTOBER 12 AND 19

THE BRIDE OF ANTI-CHRIST, PT. 1 & 2

Uncover the dangerous and deceptive counterpart to Christ's end-time church. Learn how you can stand against Christ's archenemy, the beast power, who is already operating in the world today.

OCTOBER 26 AND NOVEMBER 2

BOWING TO BABYLON, PT. 1 & 2

Thousands of years ago, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego refused to bow down to a pagan king. Discover the astonishing truth about how God's people will have to do the same in the last days.

NOVEMBER 9 AND 16

THE MILLENNIUM OF PEACE, PT. 1 & 2

What is the truth about the millennium, and what does it mean for you? Unlock the secrets of death, the resurrection, and more in this uplifting two-part presentation.

NOVEMBER 23

ELIJAH'S RETURN

Baptism plays a powerful role in the life of every believer. Explore its deeper meanings as Pastor Doug examines the spiritual connections between Elijah, John the Baptist, and Christ.

NOVEMBER 30

ARMAGEDDON COUNTDOWN

Is the end of time just around the corner? How can we know? Pastor Doug shines a bright light on the second coming of Christ and explains how we can be ready to meet Him in the sky.

DECEMBER 7 AND 14

WHAT IS THE MAIN THING?, PT. 1 & 2

Every day, God's people let the little things in life get in the way of the big picture. Learn how you can start having an eternal focus that will help you mature as a follower of Christ.

DECEMBER 21

THE TWO GREAT MOTIVES

Humans are constantly battling between selfishness and selflessness. Learn why overcoming this struggle of the heart matters and how mastering it like Christ did can help you win the battle one day at a time.

DECEMBER 28

THE CARE AND FEEDING OF YOUR CONSCIENCE

Christians are playing a dangerous game, believing they can do what the world does and somehow remain faithful. Get the Bible truth in one of Pastor Doug's boldest presentations ever!

WONDERS IN THE WORD — Airs Monday through Thursday.

A 30-minute program that features messages of hope and challenges the way you think about the Bible and life.

BIBLE ANSWERS LIVE — Airs weekly on Sunday at 7:00 p.m. Pacific.

A live call-in radio program where you can ask Pastor Doug any Bible question and get a biblical answer in return. Call 1-800-GOD-SAYS during program hours to participate.

Be a witness! Let a friend know about our programs and pray that the Holy Spirit will touch their hearts!

Schedules are subject to change without notice. Television broadcast includes national broadcast only, so check your local listings and stations in your area or visit www.AmazingFacts.org for more information.



in Partnership with



Weimar
Center of Health & Education

Awakening

Dr. Nedley Shares a Life-Transforming Event

Many years ago, the Lord was working on my heart when I was just a medical student doing my residency. At the hospital, I met a patient named Tom, an engineer, who was a millionaire inventor with a very creative mind.

But he was also aging, and he came into the emergency room with shortness of breath. To save his life, I had to intubate him, which means putting a tube down his throat to help his lungs breathe. It took nearly three weeks to get him well enough to leave the hospital, yet though we tried everything medical science had to offer, Tom could barely do anything without getting short of breath. When we finally released him, he had to go to a nursing home for special care.

While Tom was in the hospital, his daughter had come to visit him. During her time in town, an evangelistic prophecy series was being run at a nearby church. She attended the series, accepted the last-day message, and was baptized as a Sabbath-keeping Christian. It was a very exciting thing to see!

She also had a weight problem, and a caring church member guided her to a special health program that follows biblical counsel on health. There she lost weight and felt better than she had in years. It made her very excited about the health principles she had learned.

Soon after, her father had to go to the hospital again because of breathing problems. To be honest, I believed his body was so weak that I didn't think he had much of a chance. He was also extremely depressed. Again we treated him and sent him back to the nursing home many weeks later in a wheelchair.

However, his daughter told me, "He's not going back to the nursing home." Instead, she was going to take him to the

same lifestyle center she had attended. My colleagues and I diligently advised her it would be unwise because Tom couldn't make the trip in his state of health. But she had already taken care of the arrangements and took him despite our "best professional judgment."

A Healing Testimony

"This isn't good," I kept thinking. "I'm glad she's accepted Bible truth, but maybe she'd gone too extreme and could even do her father harm!" Well, it so happens that I was doing a few shifts at that same center and had the opportunity to check on Tom just two weeks after he started treatment there.

When I arrived, I was stunned to see Tom walking on his own power to the cafeteria. I asked, "Tom, what happened?" I learned the center was using simple remedies, not drugs, and a vegetarian diet to treat Tom — and the transformation was absolutely radical. Tom explained, "They're not feeding me any meat or cheese or eggs. But the food is good, so I'm going to write my old hospital and tell them they need to be serving this food!" On just his fifth day of treatment, Tom got up and was able to walk!

What I haven't told you about Tom is that he was a lifelong atheist. I had the privilege of hearing him issue his first prayer to God. He became a believer through the healing ministry of Christ.

This is what God has called Amazing Facts and Weimar to do in this new powerful union and shows what is possible when we follow Christ's method of ministry. When we follow Christ's example, nothing can stop a great harvest for the kingdom of God. 



AMAZING FACTS NEWS NOTES

NEWS NOTES

Editor's Note: Although *Amazing Facts* and *Weimar* operate independently, we want to encourage you by sharing what our partnership is already achieving and the good works your ongoing giving to *Amazing Facts* will support.

Weimar Summit

In July, leaders of Weimar met for three Spirit-filled days to pray, worship, and discuss the future direction of the ministry. An earnest commitment to implement Christ's ministry of restoration, education, adoration, and proclamation (REAP), as summarized in Matthew 9:35, characterized each presentation.

Presenters included Dr. Nedley, president of Weimar; Don Mackintosh, director of AFCOE; Pastor Doug Batchelor, president of *Amazing Facts*; Ted Wilson, Ed Reid, Dr. David DeRose, Dr. Samuel Pipim, Dr. Michael Orlich, and Dr. Philip Mills. Many of these presentations are available for download on the Weimar website.

Plans for the continued development of the new Weimar College, further strengthening of the NEWSTART program, as well as the upgrading of existing facilities were enthusiastically supported by the leaders because of their potential to help grow God's kingdom through the REAP vision.

Youth and Spiritual Growth at the WYC

The Weimar campus was blessed to host the second annual Western Youth Conference (WYC) in June, with 200 young adults attending Spirit-led meetings, participating in outreach, and more.

WYC is affiliated with the Generation Youth for Christ and is organized by dedicated young adults from the Sacramento area. The conference seeks to provide youth a forum to grow in their walk with God in fellowship and service.

"Our goal is to inspire and equip young people to fulfill their role in hastening the coming of Christ, especially through youth-to-youth evangelism," says Eric Nelson, WYC founder. "We also want to challenge them to demonstrate true Christian lives to the world."

This year's theme, inspired by the book of Hebrews, was "Something Better." It provided an ample source for powerful messages by noted speakers Pastor Doug Batchelor, Don Mackintosh, Ron du Preez, and others.

The Sabbath afternoon outreach project was a special highlight. After training with Weimar outreach coordinator Cosmin Ritavoio,



attendees fanned out across the area to do door-to-door surveys and offer residents the *Final Events* DVD. The youth came back very excited about what they'd seen God do.

Says Mark Teh, WYC director, "The Lord has provided a great venue at Weimar, a team of people dedicated to this ministry and the young people. It's been very encouraging to see how the Lord has led us here."

Through our college and academy, Weimar will continue to strive to be a place of learning and training for youth dedicated to the cause of Christ!

What's Happening at Weimar

Weimar College: In January 2009, four courses of study will be offered to select students in the following areas: AS in health science (including massage and hydrotherapy), AA in personal evangelism (pastoral ministry and Bible work), AA General Studies, with concentration in media ministries, and AA in foreign missions. Enrollment will focus on students who have demonstrated an earnest commitment to evangelism, academic excellence, and useful labor.

Weimar Academy: Darrin Greenfield, former director of the Work Study program at Weimar, has accepted the call to be the new principal for Weimar Academy.

A NEWSTART Life

Mike, who first attended the NEWSTART® Lifestyle program in January 2007, recently updated us on his progress. "When I first registered for NEWSTART, my diabetes had worsened and the neuropathy in my legs and feet had become so severe that I could hardly walk without the use of a cane.

"But NEWSTART helped me lose more than 70 pounds, lower my blood pressure, control my blood sugars and need for insulin, lower my cholesterol, and more. Thanks to the supportive staff and trust in divine power, I even returned to church and was baptized. Today I am maintaining the NEWSTART lifestyle by eating the right foods, exercising daily, and growing spiritually. Thank you, NEWSTART!"





Special Recognition

In Loving Memory

Thomas Abston from Dorothy Park
S.L. "Buck" Alvarez from Jane Alvarez, his wife; from Howard and Jane Gold
Alice Arellana from a friend
Elijah and Alyssa Arrowood from Daniel Arrowood

Edward Babcock from Doris Bevins
Elias Baccheciamp from Lorraine Baccheciamp, his wife
Violet Bahl from Joe and Shirley Fields
Frank and Mary Barker from Bonnie Lorenz
Liliane Bergman from Art Bergman, her husband
John Bidwell from Ruth Sackett, his daughter
Shirley Bilbro from John Bilbro, her husband
Harold and Hazel Bradbury from Lucille Hutchins
Agnes Breitigam from Loyd and Bette Felter
Lewie Bridges from Brian Bridges and Cathy Patch, his nephew and niece
Carl and Anna Brockmann from Ethel Simeone, their daughter
Lorena Brown from Harriet Bos
Milford Brown from Millie Brown, his wife
Verna Brown from Samantha Watson
Hank and Alice Brummett from Howard and Jane Gold
Eileen Bumgarner from Sandy Wilkinson, her niece
Shannon Burton from Spurgeon and Donnis Lail, her grandparents; from Timothy and Peggy Lail
Bruce Bush from Lucille Bush, his wife
Glen Byers from Bonnie Byers, his wife
David Byrd Enid Henderson, his aunt

George Cacic from Elaine Cacic, his wife
Benjamin Campbell from Roselle, his wife
Mary Carestio from Esther Ball
David Carleton from Jon and Linda Carleton
John Carr from Stanley Chaffee
Henry Carubba from Lu Ann Crews
Sandra Caskey from Barbara Caskey Daraby, her sister; from Robert and Marilyn Caskey, her brother and sister-in-law; from Marjorie Cole; from Deborah Layman; from Michael and Marcie Nye
Roberta Chaffee from Stanley Chaffee
Dr. Fred Chandler from Gladys Vorce
Mary Ellen Chapman from Mr. and Mrs. Donald Hunt
Max Church from David and Audrey Wrate
Stephen Paul Daniel Clatterbuck from Mary Frances Flynn, his mother
Pastor Bob Clemons from Tuesday Morning Praise and Prayer Fellowship

Carmelo Coniglio from Diana Coniglio
Russell Cook Jr. from Kathleen Afienko
Seth Cox from Herb and Debbie Cox, his parents
Betty Rees Coy from Jack Coy, her husband
Joe Crews from Lu Ann Crews, his wife; from Shelly Lowe; from Bud and Janice Robins
Ronnie Crews from Lu Ann Crews, his mother

Tor Dahlberg from Sylvia Dahlberg, his wife
Lynda Dalrymple from Herb and LaVonne Will
Arthur Davis Jr. from Neva Davis
Martay Deming from Kent and Dee Dickinson
Ann DeNooyer from David and Audrey Wrate
David Depaep from Roger and Betty Depaep, his parents
Rose Desselle from Donna Desselle
Dr. and Mrs. J.L. De Witt from Pastor and Mrs. Lyndon De Witt
Marjorie Dickinson from Kent and Dee Dickinson
Mrs. Elizabeth Dietrick from Betty Jacoby
Jeanette and Jewell Dinkmeier from John Dinkmeier
Edith Durham from Anita Lowe, her daughter; from her granddaughter

Russell Empson from Patricia Martz, his niece

David Felter from Loyd and Bette Felter, his parents
William Fisher from Dorothy Fisher, his wife
William Fitch from Lyle and Jan Chamberlain
Vera Flores from Howard and Dolores Bixler
Jewel Foutch from Gayle Tyroff, her daughter
Ruth Foutch from Gayle Tyroff, her daughter
Florence Fowler from Dr. William and Ruth Marie Wittenborn
Lynn Fox from Drusilla Fox, his wife
Jerry Freeman from Hazel Freeman, his wife
Steven Wesley Freeman from Dorothy Freeman, his mother

Thomas and Alma Gallion from Rachel Smith, their daughter
Chester George from Jeanne Hart, his mother
Elmer Glouatsky from Eldon and Evelyn Allram
Jaylen Gomes from Michael Gomes
Dale Graham from Vickey Graham, his wife
Archie Green from Steve and Mary Lou Pride
Thomas Gregory from Charlotte Hamlin
Frances Ellen Groves from Mary Frances Flynn, her daughter
Washington Hames Groves from Mary Frances Flynn, his daughter

David Haines from Olga Haines, his wife
Forest Halversin from Mary Lou and Steve Pride
Dalton Albrey Hargrove from Reba Hargrove, his daughter
Doris Pearl Harris from Mary Frances Flynn
Leslie Hart from Jeanne Hart, her sister
Tony Hernandez from Toni Graham
Fred Herscher from Frances Herscher, his wife
Joseph Herzberg from Thelma Herzberg; his wife; from Debra Fechik, his daughter
Ann Hill from Wilma Babbs
Joseph Hillebert Sr. from Mildred Hillebert, his wife
Ted and Marge Hoffman from Stephen and Donna Dickie
Melvin Holm from Fred Webb
Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Hovland from Mr. and Mrs. Doug Stivers
Donald Stephen Hunt from Mr. and Mrs. Donald Hunt

Esther Inman from Ruth, her daughter

Bev Jehnson from Stephen and Donna Dickie
Arthur Johnson from Laura Johnson
Kenneth Jose from Mercer Straw

Wally Kaufman from Gary and Kathy Osborne
Milton Kesler from Mrs. Yvonne Kesler, his wife
Clarence Kohler from Kent and Dee Dickinson
Ardyce Koobs from Kent and Dee Dickinson
Flora Krick from Ellen Hardt
Wally Kufman from Beulah Keeler
Mom Kuntz from Sandy Wilkinson, her granddaughter
Pappy Kuntz from Sandy Wilkinson, his granddaughter

Pam Ladzinski from Doug and June Ackerman
Paul Leon Lamkin from Paul Lamkin
Pastor Woody Larson from Ray and Tammie Beierle; from Wanda Davis; from Joye Manasco; from Gordon and Jessie Pendergrass
Timothy and Peggy Lail from Sprurgeon and Donnis Lail
Chris and Anna Lastine from Rozella Reule, their granddaughter
Lyle Lastine from Rozella Reule, his niece
Joyce Lattin from John and Patricia Ruffing
Cheryl Lawrence from Rozella Reule, her cousin
Herbert and Adell Lewis from David and Pamela Doll
Theda Linn from Steve and Mary Lou Pride
James Waldon Littrell from Darrell Littrell
Alan Dean Long from Pauline Long, his mother
J. Murray Long from Pauline Long, his wife

Amazing Facts recognizes contributions made as a tribute to the deceased or as an honorarium celebrating significant milestones in the lives of loved ones. Please type or print legibly to ensure correct spelling; we are unable to verify confusing spellings due to volume.

William Lowe from Anita Lowe, his wife; from Shelly Lowe, his daughter; from Lu Ann Crews
Homer Lynd from Teresa Lynd, his wife

Bill and Odessa Martin from Sy and Donalee Fasnacht
Bill May from Kent and Dee Dickinson; from Shelly Lowe
Kenneth Mayes from Barbara Mayes, his wife
Sylvester McClure from Michael McClure
James McFarland from Howard and Dolores Bixler; from Mercer Straw

Mrs. Amanda McJean from Betty Jacoby
Michael I, Michael II, Michael III, Jonathan, and Marlon McMillan from Michael McMillan
Chasity McNeil from Otis McNeil
Irene Mehling from her family
Frank Merryman from Virginia Merryman, his wife
Samuel Hames Miles from Mary Frances Flynn, his mother
Valeria Mojica from Raymundo Mojica
Leonard Moore from Stanley Chaffee
Clyde Morris, M.D. from Marylene Morris, his wife
Bill Murphy from Beulah Keeler, his sister
Tommy Murray from Faye Priehs

Lloyd Nolin from Howard and Dolores Bixler

Evelyn Osborn from Kent and Dee Dickinson
Larry Owens, D.D.S. from Bill and Donna Keehnel

Dorothy Park from Elvis Sullivan
Robert Patchin from Doris Patchin, his wife
Julia Mea Pender from Bud and Janice Robbins
Chris Perkins from Jim and Judy Culpepper
Justina Peshka from David Peshka
Martin and Ruth Petty from Jeanette Petty
Oliver Pogue from Barbara Pogue
Edna Proctor from Velma Reed

Max Qualley from Barbara Qualley, his wife
Quentin Qualley from Barbara Qualley, his sister-in-law

Max Reed from Candace Soule
Catherine Reese from Mr. and Mrs. Donald Hunt
Donald Reiber from Joan Reiber, his wife
Earl and Grace Reuss from Barbara Qualley, their daughter
Cornelio Reyes from Eileen Regoso
Leon Rich from Vivienne Rich, his wife
Don Riffel from David and Pamela Doll
Samuel and Nora Riffel from David and Pamela Doll
Max Ritchie from Catherine Ritchie, his wife; from Lu Ann Crews
Dorothy Robinson from Mrs. Curtis Gillespie
Artie Robinson-Derting from Catherine Ritchie, her daughter
Naomi Rousseau from Howard and Jane Gold
Lois Ruth Rusgrove from Richard Rusgrove, her husband
Harry and Irma Rushold from Marlin and Udene Allen

Gene Sackett from Ruth Sackett, his mother
Robert Sackett from Ruth Sackett, his wife
Wendell Sage from Paula Sage, his wife

Harold Schneider from Elsie Schneider, his wife
Annabel Sevison from Stanley Chaffee
Mildred Shaffer from Donna Shaffer, her daughter-in-law; from Eleanor Burns
Vesper and Ruth Sias from Mary Lou Pride, their daughter
Gerald Silvestri from Pastor John and Anita Silvestri, his parents
Rocco Simeone from Ethel Simeone, his wife
Ann Simpkins from Gayle Tyroff, her sister
Ed Skelton from Sandy Wilkinson, his daughter
Chauncey Smith from Kent and Dee Dickinson
Ivy Smith from Agatha Janzen
Wesley Steele from Mrs. Yvonne Kesler, his sister
Mr. and Mrs. H. Edward Stivers from Mr. and Mrs. Doug Stivers
Bobbie Stone from David and Pamela Doll
John Stratton from Donna Stratton, his wife
Nora Strawn from Lu Ann Crews
Alice Swain from Dr. and Mrs. Lewis Sommerville Sr.
Carl Swenson Jr. from Carl and Katherine Swenson
Nellie Swenson from Carl and Katherine Swenson
William Swertfager from Bob Swertfager

Allen Tattrie from Jennie Tattrie, his grandmother
Duane Tattrie from Jennie Tattrie, his mother
George Tattrie from Allene Tattrie, his wife
Roy Tattrie from Jennie Tattrie, his wife
Dorothy Thomas from Mercer Straw
Louis and Alice Thomas from Lu Ann Crews
Bryan Thompson from Susan Thompson
H.R. Trout from Marylene Morris
Edgar and Essie Tunison from Lu Ann Crews, their daughter

Helen Veach from Jeanne Hart, her daughter
Eddie Venn from Ardatha Pederson, his mother
Dagmy Vetne from David and Audrey Wrate

Veronica Walker from Lenda Walker
Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Weisz from Donald and Helen Myres
Virginia Wesner from Edward and Peggy Jasper
Ken Wickersham from Dan and Alice Covrig
Ron Wiggins from Barbara Qualley, his mother-in-law
Stan Wikinson, M.D. from Floyd Scott
Kenneth and Miriam Wood from Lola Genton
Joy Woolley from George and Marie Dortch
William Worf from April Worf
Mary Wright from Howard and Jane Gold

Bill Zima Jr. from Patricia Zima, his mother
Bill Zima Sr. from Patricia Zima, his wife

Happy Anniversary
Cutler and Jeanette Baldwin (65th) from Delane and Joanne Isaak
Harold and Pat Case from Mercer Straw
Ed and Mary Lee Herzel (70th) from George Halleron
Richard and Romma Pender

Charles and Evelyn Tidwell from Nathan and Margie Tidwell
Anthony Turner from Lashatra Turner

Happy Birthday

Lucas Albano from Roy Allan Albano
Tillie Ensminger (93rd) from Dr. and Mrs. Eldon Stratton
Pete Francisco from Marta Francisco
Grace Jose from Mercer Straw
Bruce Mallernee from Mercer Straw
Edith McFarland from Mercer Straw
Sarah Paris from Trevor Paris, her father
Bill Thomas from Mercer Straw

In Honor of

Gary Anderson from Byron Anderson
Kisaiah Anderson from Maude Ramoutar
FSgt. Bryan Brown from Susan Leagus
Patty Giambra from Jim Gibson
Baby Grace from Brenda Soto
Tom Grace from Brenda Soto
Rachel Idikula (graduation) from John Idikula
Jason Carroll Kelley from Willis "Bill" Kelley
Viviana Martinez from Fernando Martinez
Earleen McClure from Michael McClure
Sallie Moses from Jim Gibson
Emily Ann Sanchez from Brenda Soto

In Honor of Baptism

Jamie and Chyllynn Bridges from Brian Bridges and Cathy Patch

In Honor of Marriage

Sarah Coon from Lawrence Coon





A Lesson in Labels

Emily Thomsen, Wellness Coach

Don't eat foods that make health claims on the labels," says Michael Pollan, author of *In Defense of Food*. Counterintuitive as this might sound, the best foods for you don't have labels! If a product is making a health claim, it might be trying to make up for its shortcomings. Not all packaged food is bad, of course, but before you bring it home, *read the label!* Learning to decipher what's really in the foods you eat is a key step in eating healthfully.

The Nutrition Facts panel is usually on the back or side of all packaged foods. The first thing to notice is serving size. Keep in mind that the subsequent nutrition information applies only to one serving, not the whole package. (Remember to account for this if you plan to eat the whole package!)

Look next at the total calories and calories from fat. Divide the calories from fat by the total number of calories to find the percentage of fat. Avoid foods with more than 20 percent fat, especially if you need to lose weight. Exceptions to this would be avocado or raw nuts and seeds, which are naturally high in the good fats our bodies need to function properly — but eat these good fats in limited quantities!

Next on the list are specific fats. Manufacturers are required to list total, saturated, and trans fats. Some will also list polyunsaturated and monounsaturated fats. Research shows that both saturated and trans fats raise LDL cholesterol (the bad kind).



Next is cholesterol. If your diet is made up of exclusively plant foods, cholesterol is a non-issue because only animal products contain cholesterol. If you consume animal products, make sure you get no more than 300 mg of cholesterol per day. If you want to lower your cholesterol, eliminating all cholesterol (as well as saturated and trans fats) from your diet is the surest way to success. Your body produces as much cholesterol as you need, so any extra you get in your diet can elevate your cholesterol.

When it comes to sodium, your processed foods should contain less than one mg per calorie, and not more than 140 mg total per serving. Even "health foods" can be high in sodium because it's in so many of the additives used in processing. A high-sodium diet is the primary cause of high blood pressure; to lower your blood pressure and minimize your risk of stroke and heart disease, consume no more than 1,000 mg of sodium per day.

When evaluating carbohydrates, look for foods with at least 3 grams of fiber per 100 calories. If you have diabetes, subtract the grams of fiber from the total carbohydrates for the number of "available carbohydrates," or those that will elevate your blood sugar.

With all the high-protein hype these days, you might think protein is the most important nutrient. But studies have shown that we need only 20 to 35 grams of protein per day. Plus, all your protein needs are easily obtainable on a plant-based diet. Even vegans routinely consume 60 to 80 grams of protein per day. Outside of North America, most of the world's protein intake comes from plants. Where do you think the cow got its protein? The elephant? The gorilla? The world's largest land mammals are primarily herbivores. Plants contain all the protein you need!



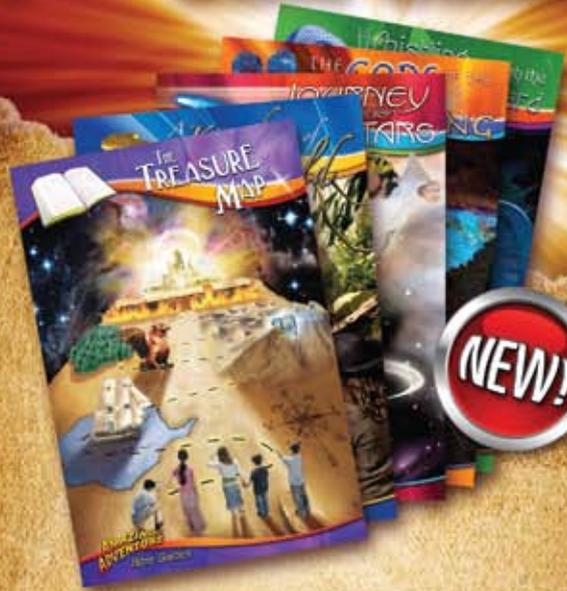
Finally, read the ingredient list carefully. Ingredients are listed in order by weight from most to least, so the first one to three ingredients comprise the bulk of the product. Avoid foods with sugar in the first three ingredients or with multiple forms of sugar. (Corn syrup, brown rice syrup, evaporated cane juice, honey, fructose, and sucrose are all forms of sugar.) Only brown rice and oats

are typically used in their whole form, so if the word "whole" is not before each other grain listed, your food is not whole grain. Words such as "enriched," "milled," "de-germed," or even "wheat flour" do NOT mean whole grain. Unless it says "whole" in the ingredients, wheat bread is simply white bread with a tan. If your product contains vegetable shortening or partially hydrogenated oils of any kind, it will contain trans fats. Don't buy the product if it contains any ingredient you don't recognize or can't pronounce.

Though making sense of the Nutrition Facts labels might seem daunting, with a little practice you can unravel the mystery. And remember, fill your grocery cart with foods without labels!



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