

# THE EVANGELISTS

M A G A Z I N E

Issue 13 March - May 2013

## Crucified with Christ

Classic Sermon from George Müller

## A Scandalous Gospel

An appeal to not compromise

## About the Father's business

Speaking out for Christ

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Imitating Christ

# The Commission

**THE** EVANGELISTS  
MAGAZINE

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Issue 13 March - May 2013

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**SOTC Aims:**

Soldiers of the Cross, founded by Tim and Leah Knowling, is dedicated to evangelising the lost and seeing the church become the mighty, mature and fully-functioning army of God it is meant to be, in a war that has already been won through Christ's atoning death and resurrection.

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Soldiers of the Cross

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## ◆ Tim Knowling

*"For the story and message of the cross is sheer absurdity and folly to those who are perishing and on their way to perdition, but to us who are being saved it is the [manifestation of] the power of God." 1 Corinthians 1:18 AMP*

I attended the funeral recently of a saint whom had been promoted to glory. On talking to another brother at the end of the service, it was wonderful to talk about the blessed hope that we have as believers as found in 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18.

*"But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words."*

There is a key reason for this hope that the believer can stand on, and it all comes back to the cross of Calvary. *"For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again..."*

The Apostle Paul, in his letter to the Church at Corinth, again made very clear the importance of not only Christ's death, but also His bodily resurrection. *"And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins." 1 Corinthians 15:17*

What a wonderful thing it is to reflect on again, this Easter season, that we serve a

living Saviour. The words to Robert Lowry's hymn come to mind.

*'Up from the grave he arose;  
with a mighty triumph o'er his foes;  
He arose a victor from the dark domain,  
and He lives forever, with his saints to reign.  
He arose! He arose! Hallelujah! Christ arose!'*

Easter is the other season (after Christmas) where Christians can take advantage of the moment to share its true meaning. The other day my wife, Leah, and our children were in the supermarket. The cashier started chatting to the kids about the Easter bunny, which gave Leah an opportunity to remind her of the true meaning of Easter. Along with a gospel tract, we have an excellent opportunity to plant the seed of the gospel with those whom we come in contact.

Speaking of tracts, we, at Soldiers of the Cross, have partnered with One Million Tracts Australia from Melbourne, to produce a special event tract for ANZAC Day. Based on the life of William McKenzie, a padre (Chaplain) to the Australian Army during WW1, this tract is available for purchase from our websites.

You can also read about McKenzie in the article 'Imitating Christ', and learn what motivated him to take the presence of Christ to the battlefields of Gallipoli and the Western front in Europe.

Following the theme of the cross we have a classic sermon by George Müller entitled 'Crucified with Christ', in which he unravels the identity of the true believer, and implores unbelievers to look to God for pardon.

On page 12 we have reprinted an article by Paul Washer on 'A Scandalous Gospel', and on page 14 we have a message from a new contributor, Josh Page ('About the Father's Business') imploring us to speak out for Christ. Hope you are encouraged.



## India needs teachings

I thank you very much for the Evangelists Magazine, I have received it safely. Thank you very much, really I was blessed with the news in the magazine.

Everyday I am praying for Soldiers of the Cross Ministries, our Lord bless your work/ministry. I love the main desire of the Ministry is Making disciples of all Nations. Praise God. I am agree with you, many Pastors and Evangelists in India need your messages and teachings.

K.K  
India

## Blessed to receive first issue

I was very much blessed to receive my first issue of the Evangelistic magazine.

May God bless you and grow your territory.

M.S.  
Lesotho, Southern Africa

## Thank you

Thank you for sending the copy of magazine The Evangelists. Really is a great one.

I.T.  
India

## Appreciate your mag

Thank you for your magazine. I always appreciate it.

T.S.  
NSW, Australia

*If you have been encouraged by this magazine, or have a testimony to share of how God is using you in His harvest field (such as the one below), please let us know, that others may also be encouraged.*

**Write or email us at the contact details on pg 2.**

## Comfort Zone Living

by John Westcott, from NSW, Australia

If you are like me, the challenge of getting out of the comfort zone and witnessing to non-believers in the workplace, your next-door neighbour or someone in the street, is something that I find difficult.

Reading Matthew chapter 10 this morning, the disciples were named and sent out with teaching on how they would be received by those they contacted ... not comfortable.

Verse 32-33 says "Everyone who acknowledges me publicly here on earth, I will also acknowledge before my Father in heaven. But everyone who denies me here on earth, I will also deny before my Father in heaven." Comfort zone living can lead to compromise and denying Christ.

My wife, Margaret, had a nursing reunion after 50 years at Surfers Paradise in Queensland. Being there I took the opportunity to meet with Ryan Hemelaar and friends from Operation 513 during one of their regular Saturday outreaches on Cavill Ave in the heart of Surfers Paradise. We handed out quality Christian tracts on the beach end, where thousands of people pass by each day.

Ryan and his friends are seasoned at handing out tracts and gave out hundreds, speaking to people as the opportunity arose, drunks and drug addicts alike. Not comfortable, but Jesus said go and make disciples.

I spoke to a contractor from Melbourne who was interested in talking about his work, but when the subject of knowing God came up he went cold, saying his parents were religious but he did not want anything to do with it. Another guy said that the Bible was only written by men and the Quran said more about Jesus than the Bible does! However, rejection by others is something Jesus faced also and He is teaching us in Matthew chapter 10 that it is part of being a true follower of Christ.

Whatever your challenge is today, get out of your comfort zone and stand for Jesus, even in the face of criticism and rejection.



Operation 513's Ryan Hemelaar preaching the Gospel

Stock Photo. Source: Operation 513

How may we know that we are crucified with Christ, that we have died with Him, and that we are risen with Him? Possibly some believers may not know how to settle this point.

It is of the deepest moment to have a clear understanding of it. It is not by a voice from heaven, not by some powerful impression made on us in a dream or otherwise, but simply by believing in the Lord Jesus Christ, trusting in Him for the salvation of our souls, that we settle the point that we are united to Him, that with Him we were crucified, that with Him we died, that with Him we are raised again, and with Him sit in heavenly places.

We have simply to say to ourselves, Do I trust in Jesus for the salvation of my soul? Do I know I am a guilty, wicked sinner, deserving nothing but judgment; but do I trust, at the same time, in the Lord Jesus for the salvation of my soul? If so, then Jesus is my substitute; then Jesus died in my room and stead; then am I looked upon by God as one united with Christ; then have I been punished for my sins in the person of the Lord Jesus Christ; then was I hung, as it were, on the cross with Jesus, God having accepted Him as my substitute; then was I buried with Christ, and have been raised again with Him; then, in my Forerunner, I am seated at the right hand of God in heaven; then, as assuredly as the Lord Jesus is there, so shall I be.

These are precious truths, not man's inventions. The Book

of God speaks of them again and again. The epistles to the Ephesians and Colossians, and others, are full of these glorious truths. But what we need is, that they become increasingly realities to us. Not so much that we are able to speak with clearness about them, but that more and more we know their power in our hearts.

We have, therefore, to say to ourselves, I am a wicked, guilty, hell-deserving sinner; and had not God, in the riches of His grace, given the Lord Jesus to die in my stead, hell must have been my portion for eternity; but it pleased God to deliver Him up for me; and since I trust in the Lord Jesus for salvation, I shall not be punished, because my blessed Substitute, the Lord Jesus Christ, was punished in my room and stead.

Now, what follows? My sins are forgiven. Not, shall be when I die. Not, I shall find out some day that they are forgiven. But, they are forgiven now forgiven. By the grace of God I am as certain that my sins are forgiven as I am certain that I am speaking to you. Not because I deserve it. I am a guilty, wicked, hell-deserving sinner; but I trust in the Lord Jesus for the salvation of my soul; and God declares that all who put their trust in Him shall have forgiveness.

As it is written in Acts 10:43, in reference to the Lord Jesus: *"To Him give all the prophets witness, that through His name, whosoever believeth in Him shall receive remission of sins."* I do believe in Him, that is, I do put my trust in Him, and therefore my sins are forgiven.

Now, let me affectionately press this point on you, because it is a matter of deep moment that we be assured our sins are forgiven, and habitually assured of it. Because it is just this which makes heaven certain to us, that we know God has nothing against us. The knowledge and the enjoyment of the forgiveness of our sins will keep our hearts from going out towards this present world.

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*“We are also the children of God, and as children we are the heirs of God, and as the heirs of God we are joint-heirs with the Lord Jesus Christ”*

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To be heavenly-minded, really and truly, we must be assured our sins are forgiven; and this we know simply from the Divine testimony, that those who put their trust in Jesus have the forgiveness of their sins. But this is not all. Through faith in Jesus we are now the sons of God. We are not only reconciled, because of our Substitute and Surety, and God is well-pleased with us, but we are

# Crucified with

By George Müller

also the children of God, and as children we are the heirs of God, and as the heirs of God we are joint-heirs with the Lord Jesus Christ.

Now this brings us to another point. If we are the children of God, if we are the heirs of God, and joint-heirs with the Lord Jesus Christ, then all who believe in the Lord Jesus constitute one family. They may be scattered all over the world, may in ten thousand things differ as to the present life, and in ten thousand things have differed as to their manner of life before they were brought to the knowledge of the Lord Jesus, may differ after their conversion as to their position in life, and in numberless ways also as to attainments in knowledge and grace; but nevertheless, as assuredly as they believe in the Lord Jesus for the salvation of their souls do they constitute one heavenly family, they are brethren. We glorify God by living as such here. In heaven we shall be together.

Throughout eternity we shall be unspeakably happy, and love one another perfectly and habitually. But we are to glorify God by manifesting this love now, while on the earth, while in weakness and exposed to conflict, while the struggle is going on; now we are to be united together, and to manifest that we are one family, the heavenly family. This is the way to bring glory to God.

In order to this let us keep before us "Crucified with Christ."

What does this

imply? That we deserve to be crucified, that we are sinners, wicked, guilty sinners, and every one all the members of the heavenly family, all sinners, and such sinners that we deserve nothing but hell. And in order that we might escape the torments of hell, the blessed Lord Jesus Christ died in our room, and became a curse that we might escape it.

Where is boasting then?  
Who has ground for boast-

ing? Perhaps one says, "Ah, but I have made much greater attainments in knowledge and grace than others." But what does Paul say? "*He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord.*" The child of God has nought wherein to glory but the cross of Christ. Therefore if we boast, let it be that the blessed Lord Jesus died for us guilty, hell-deserving sinners. And if we have a little more light and a little more grace than some of our fellow-believers, let us

testify that it is by the grace of God we have it.

Now because we love one another we may speak freely. It has been stated, that, if we are of one mind about the foundation truths, we should agree to differ about minor points, in order that thus brotherly love may not be hindered. Allow me to say, that according to Philip-

pian 3:15-16, I am of a different judgment. We should not agree to differ, but should expect and pray that we and other believers may have further light given to us; yea, we should remember that the day is coming when we shall see eye to eye.

In the meantime, however, we should act according to the light which the Lord has given to us already, always seeking, at the same time, to exercise gentleness, tenderness, and forbearance

# n Christ

towards those from whom we differ; remembering that we are what we are by the grace of God, know what we know by the grace of God, and that a man can receive nothing except it be given him from Heaven.

Instead of agreeing to differ; let us agree to love one another because of Christ's love to us. While in weakness and infirmity, let us agree to walk together, having the same precious blood

of Christ to make us clean, and being of the same heavenly family.

Perhaps some present are not prepared for eternity. I cannot sit down without speaking one word to you, my fellow-sinners. I know the state in which you are, for I was once in the same state. You may be seeking for happiness, you will not find it except you find it in Jesus. Seek it never so much and never

so eagerly, you will not find it except you find it in the crucified, risen, and ascended Lord Jesus.

Let me, as one who has been brought to the knowledge of Christ, tell you of the blessedness I have experienced as a disciple, of Christ.

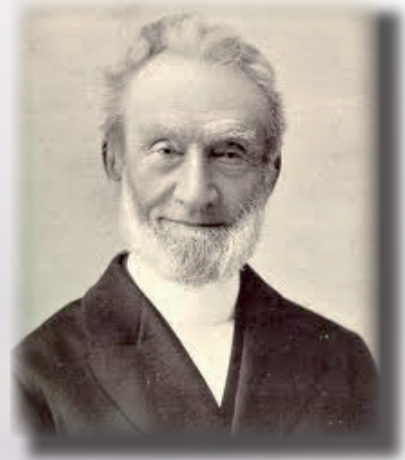
Times without number might I have gone back into the world, if I had desired to do so; but so unspeakably blessed and precious have I found it for forty years to be a disciple of Christ, that, if the attractions of the world were a thousand times greater than they are, by the grace of God, I should have no desire for them.

Well, then, as one who eagerly sought happiness in the present world, and never found it, and now for forty years knows the sweetness and preciousness of walking with Jesus, I affectionately beseech you to seek Him.

Poor sinner! Only put thy trust in Him, only depend on Him for the salvation of thy soul, and all thy sins, numberless as they are, shall be instantly forgiven; thou wilt be reconciled to God, brought into the road to heaven, and when this life is over, have eternal life.

## George Müller

(27 Sept 1805 – 10 March 1898)



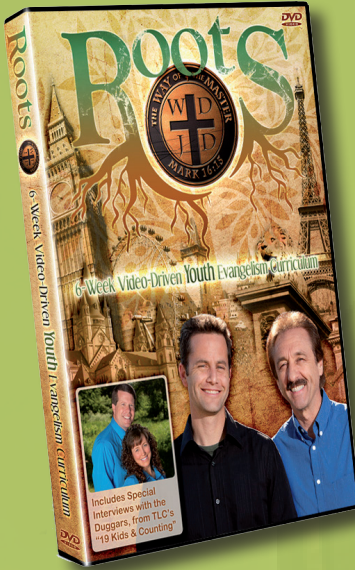
*George Müller was a Christian evangelist, missionary and the Director of the Ashley Down orphanage, which he established in Bristol, England, where he cared for over 10,000 orphans during his life.*

*George also helped establish over 100 schools which provided a Christian education to more than 100,000 children.*

*George Müller however, is perhaps best known for his simple faith in God's word and His promises, in providing for his needs in over sixty years of ministry.*

*George Müller Sermons, Extracted from an address delivered in Bristol on November 7th, 1863.*

## Why do 80% of Youth leave Church after High School?



### ◆ Ray Comfort

There is a well-known statistic that tells us that 80% of youth stop attending church after they graduate high school. As a parent, that's the most horrifying statistic in the world to me!

Let me bring that closer to home, that means, in a church

youth group with 20 kids, over 15 will no longer go to church after they graduate. In a home, 3 out of 4 of our kids statistically will forsake fellowship by the time they're 18. The cry of all of our hearts should be "why"?!

I have heard many theories of why they leave: New temptations in college—no mom and dad bubble to be a governor for their sinful nature, exposure to new faiths and sceptical questions, not being properly disciplined at home, going to youth group, not going to youth group, not sufficiently understanding creationism, etc. While these are real issues, I don't believe any of them are the reason they quit church.

I spoke with a youth pastor friend who spent half of his life serving youth full-time, and with the firsthand empirical evidence of years of leading, watching, mentoring,

equipping, and counselling teenagers he said that he can confidently say that most of them were NOT SAVED. They didn't read the Bible regularly, they didn't share their faith, many were sexually active, many experimented with drugs, they didn't fight for godly fellowship, they were not givers, dated unbelievers, and the list of goat-like qualities goes on. They simply hadn't been translated from darkness to light. They didn't drift away from God after high school; they weren't with God during high school. They drifted away from "church."

The real question should be, how can we help our kids clearly understand the gospel—the power of God to salvation, and then equip them to live as believers. Many of our youth genuinely don't understand the gospel, the whole counsel of God, and we often just presume that they do. And many churches and homes have not taught our teens that an essential, fundamental part of being a disciple is sharing the gospel, and then equipped them for that adventurous task.

Why did we create our new youth evangelism program "Roots"? Simply because there is practically no curriculum out there for youth about evangelism. My wife and I have 3 grown children with kids of their own. We wanted to create something to fill that desperate need in the Body of Christ for families and for churches and for our grandchildren. We want to have them hear the gospel, and then learn how they can bring it to others.

For more info visit [www.livingwaters.com/roots](http://www.livingwaters.com/roots).

Available in Australia from [www.evangelism.com.au](http://www.evangelism.com.au)

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THE EVANGELIST  
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## It's Harvest Time

## ◆ Tim Knowing

**W**e live in a world where, with its many temptations, it would be very easy to just join in with the great procession of the masses and slide along with everyone else in enjoying its pleasures.

For the Christian however, although we may be exposed to the temptations the world has to offer, we have been separated to live a life that is altogether different.

Romans 12:2 says, *“And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind....”*

Indeed, for the Christian, (the called-out one) - for as Christians we have been called out to live

lives that separate us from this present world - there is another pattern, another image to which we have been called to conform.

In Romans 8:29 we are instructed in what image we are to conform to. *“For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.”*

After Christ’s resurrection from the dead and His ascension to the Father, the disciples/Apostles knew that it was their duty to continue in the work that their master had taught and led them.

They were to be ‘Christ’ to the world not only in word, but in deed.

Paul said in the book of Galatians 3:27, *“For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.”*

Now there are many people you will come across who admire Christ and His teachings and think that He was another great Philosopher along with the likes

of Philo and Plato, but they have not put on Christ. They have not been born again of the Holy Spirit and baptized into Christ, and so they cannot reflect His Glory.

But it is to the believer, that the Apostles were speaking to, in the scriptures, about being Christ to the world. Consider the following passages from God’s word that were given to show us the true nature of the Christian life.

*“Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ.”* 1 Corinthians 11:1

*“For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps.”* 1 Peter 2:21

*“He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.”* 1 John 2:6

These above passages are a reminder that the Christian life is one of surrender. Surrender to our own ambitions, and with that, the taking up of the cause of Christ.

The Christian road is not often the easy road. Jesus himself spoke about the

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road that leads to life being narrow and compressed, where as the other road, the road which leads to destruction being wide. (Matthew 7:13-14)

However, the testimony of scripture and of saints down through the ages shows us that we can do nothing of ourselves (John 15:5), but to him that asks, grace is given (Philippians 4:13), to help us be the image of Christ to those around us.

There are many individuals that we could point to, who by the grace of God lived such lives that their testimony is remembered for the lives that were changed through their ministry.

We could point to that saint, George Müller who spent over sixty years of his life ministering to the orphans in Bristol, England in the 19th century. Through this work and others, many people were won into the kingdom of God.

In more modern times we have men of God like the late Pastor David Wilkerson whom God called to establish a ministry (Teen Challenge) and a church amongst the drug addicts and prostitutes of New York. Through this work many

people were translated out of Satan's kingdom into God's kingdom, and delivered from the addictions and lifestyles that they were in bondage to.

In both of the above cases these Godly men ministered to the peoples spiritual and physical needs. Each need was ministered to without the neglect of the other.

Even in the nation of Australia, where this publication comes from, God has placed His servants to be a light in places of darkness. It was nearly one hundred years ago, during the darkness that covered the world in the 'war to end all wars', that the Lord had prepared one of His servants for such a time as this.

William McKenzie was a Salvation Army officer when the First World War broke out in July of 1914. In a global tragedy that was to claim the lives of more than 9 million men, God placed McKenzie as a Padre (Chaplain) to the Australian troops that served throughout some of the theatres of this conflict.

Born in Scotland in 1869, McKenzie had immigrated to Australia in 1884, where he soon got used to the tough lifestyle

that was part of the Australian landscape during those times.

As a man of the world, drinking and fighting was his life, until he was confronted with the gospel at a Salvation Army meeting. Confronted with his own rebellion and sin against God, William surrendered his life to Christ.

With a zeal in his heart to serve God, William joined the Salvation Army where he soon found out the truth of God's word, "Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution." 2 Timothy 3:12.

The trials that he experienced during these times would be part of his preparation for what was to come.

McKenzie was on his way home from a Salvation Army convention in England when he heard the news that England was at war with Germany. He also knew that Australia as a part of the British Commonwealth would support England in the conflict that was to come.

At the age of 44 years, William McKenzie was appointed chaplain to the Australian Imperial Expeditionary Force. Within a



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few months he would find himself in Egypt.

McKenzie brought the same zeal he had, as a minister of the gospel in peace time, to the soldiers he would minister to over the next 3 years.

William was not always accepted by the troops at first, but within a short time earned their respect as he not only went about the work of conducting church meetings, but also in visiting the sick and organizing wholesome forms of entertainment and recreation.

Where McKenzie extended himself the most and perhaps gained the most respect of the soldiers was when he joined in with them in their training exercises and forced marches.

Ever mindful of the spiritual needs of his men he would be a ready ear for troubled soldiers, and provide counsel to help them in their need.

Whilst stationed in Egypt there were many temptations for the sol-

the lives of men that would last for all eternity.

It was on this day that the ANZAC (Australian and New Zealand Army Corps) forces embarked for a place that would forever be a part of their nations' history, the Gallipoli peninsula in Turkey.

On the 25th of April 1915 The Anzac forces landed at Gallipoli where things didn't go well from the start. Landing on the beaches they were faced with steep cliffs. The machine gun fire from the Turkish soldiers was so severe that many never made it off the beach. At the end of the first day they had suffered some 2300 casualties.

It would be a couple of weeks before McKenzie was allowed ashore, but immediately he went to work, one of his first tasks being to bury his commanding officer. This was to become a common occurrence for Mac as over a period of a few months 60% of Captain McKenzie's battalion were either killed or wounded.

Amongst the tragedy of this all, William McKenzie never forgot his God-given

diers such as the brothels of Cairo which 'Mac' as he became affectionately known not only preached against but also was reported to have actively help deter men from entering.

However it was on Easter Sunday in 1915 that Captain William McKenzie began the journey that would lead to him impacting

commission of being the presence of Christ to those around him.

In his writings he wrote, *'What a tremendous sense of responsibility it gives one when preaching to realise that one is talking to men, some of whom will be killed or wounded ere next Sunday comes round. This has been the case each week of our sojourn here, and last night I was obsessed with the idea and yearned with unutterable longing to lead them to the blessed Saviour. Now I can understand the significance of Duncan Matheson's prayer when working in the Crimean War: 'Lord, stamp eternity on my eyeballs.'*

McKenzie was always there for his men. In the trenches of the front line the soldiers would often hear Mac coming, singing a hymn and then gathering a group of men together for a small church service.

Always interested in their eternal welfare, it has been estimated that Captain McKenzie led some 2000-3000 men to Christ during those terrible days in 1915. Many of the soldiers who put their faith in Christ did so just days, in some cases, before they were killed.

One a young Scotsman, who had been ministered to by Captain McKenzie and who had professed Christ as his Lord and Saviour, was found dead the next day. A letter in his pocket which helped to identify him, addressed to his Godly mother back home telling her what had happened just the night before would no doubt bring comfort to her knowing that her son was saved for all eternity.

In many of the battles that took place at Gallipoli McKenzie was there with the soldiers, sometimes praying with them just before they went over the top with the knowledge that most would be killed or wounded. It has even been said that McKenzie had contravened orders to return to the rear during battles because he had such a strong conviction

tion that his place was with the men who needed him. During the battle of Lone Pine Captain McKenzie in replying to the concerns of some of the lads about his safety said, 'Boys, I've lived with you, I've preached to you and I've prayed with you. Do you think I'm now afraid to die with you? I should be afraid to funk it!'

As the whistle blew and the soldiers rose as one up out of the trenches to an uncertain fate, Their Padre went with them clutching onto a trenching shovel. The cost that day was a high one, with more than 2000 casualties afflicted on the Anzac troops. McKenzie was to spend the coming days burying many of those who had died, collecting their dog tags and writing letters to the families of the deceased.

At Gallipoli and after on the Western front battle fields of France and Belgium Captain William McKenzie was to be remembered for his selfless devotion to the men in the trenches.

Whether it was rescuing a wounded man while under fire from the enemy or scrounging through the Anzac positions collecting chocolates for his boys, or staying up all night digging steps in the side of a hill so stretcher bearers and water carriers could more easily perform their duties. McKenzie's legacy will ultimately only be measured in eternity, by those that he led to the saviour.

Captain William McKenzie, as a Christian first and as a minister second, no doubt believed the scriptures and the admonition that the Apostle Paul had given to all believers which was, "Therefore be imitators of God [copy Him and follow His example], as well-beloved children [imitate their father]. And walk in love, [esteeming and delighting in one another] as Christ loved us and gave Himself up for us, a slain offering and sacrifice to God [for you, so that it became] a sweet fragrance." Ephesians 5:1-2 AMP.

In the scriptures there is a promise which is to every believer, "For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them." Ephesians 2:10

Just as McKenzie was a light to his generation we have been called to be the same to ours. As we walk in obedience to God we would do well to keep in the back of our minds the following words from one of C.T. Studd's poems, 'Only one life', 'Only one life, 'twill soon be past, Only what's done for Christ will last.'

Since 1916 in both Australia and New Zealand, April the 25th has been set aside as a day of remembering not only the sacrifice of those who landed at a place now known as Anzac cove on the Gallipoli Peninsula, but also those who have since then served their country in times of war and conflict.

Easter, which is generally around a similar time, is also a time when we reflect on sacrifice. While ANZAC Day, or Veterans' or Armistice Day, remembers the sacrifice of many, Easter remembers One. That once-for-all sacrifice of the Christ of God far outweighs all others. As brave and gallant the sacrifices of our men and women have been, they are ultimately fighting for an earthly kingdom that will one day perish.

In the book of 1 Corinthians chapter 15, the Apostle Paul tells us of the victory that Christ won for believers on the cross of Calvary, and of the enemy which He defeated.

"The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death." 1 Corinthians 15:26

And in verses 54-55 we read, "So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.

"O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?"

**Source:**

1. 'Fighting McKenzie Anzac Chaplain', Col Stringer, Gold Coast: Col Stringer Ministries Inc., © 2002.
2. 'Faith of the Anzacs', Daniel Reynaud, Warburton: It is Written Oceania, © 2010.

# ANZAC Day Tract

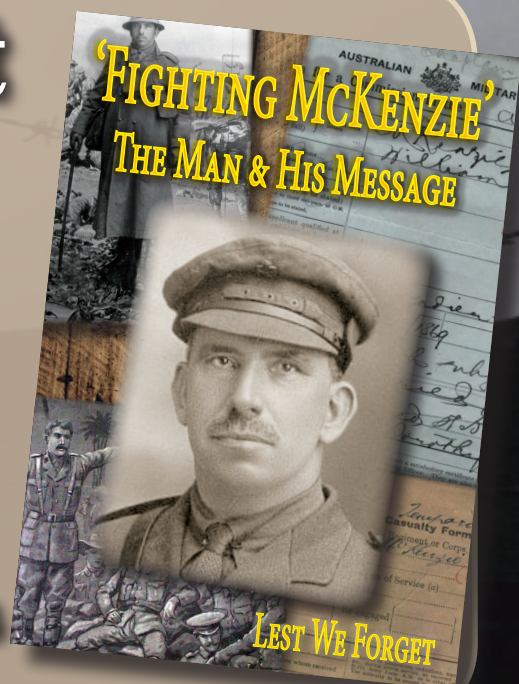
The publishers of The Evangelists Magazine, Soldiers of the Cross, in partnership with One Million Tracts Australia, present a new tract specifically designed for ANZAC Day.

This 4-page pocket-size Gospel tract is based on the life of WW1 Chaplain William 'Fighting Mac' McKenzie. With a clear Gospel presentation, it is ideal for handing out at ANZAC Day parades.

On April 25th, the day Australians and New Zealanders remember the sacrifice of our fallen men and women in times of war, let us use the opportunity to share with them about the One Who made the once-for-all sacrifice, Jesus Christ.

Available in packs of 50 for \$4.99.

[www.soldiersofthecross.com.au](http://www.soldiersofthecross.com.au)  
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#### ◆ Paul Washer

**“For I am not ashamed of the Gospel for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.”**

**Romans 1:16**

**P**aul’s flesh had every reason to be ashamed of the Gospel he preached because it contradicted absolutely everything that was held to be true and sacred among his contemporaries.

To the Jew, the Gospel was the worst sort of blasphemy because it claimed that the Nazarene who died accursed on Calvary was the Messiah. To the Greeks, it was the worst sort of absurdity because it claimed that this Jewish Messiah was God in the flesh. Thus Paul knew that when-

ever he opened his mouth to speak the Gospel he would be utterly rejected and ridiculed to scorn unless the Holy Spirit intervened and moved upon the hearts and minds of his hearers. In our day, the primitive Gospel is no less offensive, for it still contradicts every tenet or “ism” of contemporary culture - relativism, pluralism, and humanism.

#### **It’s Not All Relative**

We live in an age of Relativism - a belief system based upon the absolute certainty that there are no absolutes. We hypocritically applaud men for seeking the truth, but call for the public execution of anyone arrogant enough to believe he has found it. We live in a self-imposed Dark Age, the reason for which is clear. Natural man is a fallen creature, morally corrupt, and hellbent on autonomy (i.e. self-government). He hates God because He is righteous and hates His laws because they censure and restrict his evil. He hates the truth because it exposes him for what he

is and troubles what still remains of his conscience. Therefore, fallen man seeks to push truth, especially the truth about God, as far from him as possible. He will go to any extent to suppress the truth; even to the point of pretending that no such thing exists or that if it does exist, it cannot be known or have any bearing on our lives. It is never the case of a hiding God but a hiding man. The problem is not the intellect but the will. Like a man who hides his head in the sand to avoid a charging rhino, modern man denies the truth of a righteous God and His moral absolutes in hopes of quieting his conscience and putting out of mind the judgment he knows to be inevitable.

The Christian Gospel is a scandal to man and his culture because it does the one thing he most wants to avoid - It awakens him from his self-imposed slumber to the reality of his fallenness and rebellion, and calls for him to reject autonomy and submit to God through repentance and faith in Jesus Christ.

## Everyone's Not Right

We live in an age of Pluralism – a belief system that puts an end to truth by declaring everything to be true, especially with regard to religion.

It may be difficult for the contemporary Christian to comprehend, but the Christians living in the first few centuries of the faith were actually marked and persecuted as atheists. The culture surrounding them was immersed in theism. The world was filled with images of deities, and religion was a booming business.

Men not only tolerated one another's deities but also swapped and shared them. The entire religious world was going along just fine until the Christians showed up and declared that, "gods made with hands are no gods at all."

They denied the Caesars the homage they demanded, refused to bend the knee to all other so-called gods, and confessed Jesus alone as Lord of all. The entire world looked on such jaw-dropping arrogance and reacted with fury against the Christian's intolerable intolerance to tolerance.

This same scenario abounds in our world today. Against all logic, we are told that all views regarding religion and morality are true, no matter how radically different and contradictory they may be. The most overwhelming aspect of all this is that through the tireless efforts of the media and the academic world, this has quickly become the majority view.

Nevertheless, pluralism does not address the issue or cure the malady. It only anesthetizes the patient so that he no longer feels or thinks. The Gospel is a scandal because it awakens man from his slumber and refuses to let him rest on such an illogical footing. It forces him to come to some conclusion – "How long will you hesitate between two opinions? If the LORD is God, follow Him; but if Baal, follow him."

The true Gospel is radically exclusive. Jesus is not "a" way, but "the" way, and all other ways are no way at all. If Christianity would only move one small step toward a more tolerant ecumenicalism and change the definite article "the" for the indefinite article "a", the scandal

would be removed, and the world and Christianity could become friends. However, whenever this occurs, Christianity ceases to be Christianity, Christ is denied, and the world is without a Savior.

## Man Is Not The Measure

We live in an age of Humanism. Over the last several decades, man has fought to purge God from his conscience and culture. He has torn down every visible altar to the "One True God" and has erected monuments to himself with the zeal of a religious fanatic. He has managed to make Himself the center, measure, and end of all things. He praises his inherent worth, demands homage to his self-esteem, and promotes his own self-fulfillment or self-realization as the greatest good. He explains away his gnawing conscience as the remnants of an antiquated religion of guilt, and he excuses himself from any responsibility for the moral chaos surrounding him by blaming society, or at least that part of society that has not yet attained to his enlightenment.

Any suggestion that his conscience might be right in its testimony against him or that he might be responsible for the almost infinite variations of maladies in the world is unthinkable. For this reason, the Gospel is a scandal to fallen man because it exposes his delusion about himself and convicts him of his fallenness and guilt.

This is the essential "first work" of the Gospel, and this is why the world so loathes true Gospel preaching. It ruins man's party, rains on his parade, exposes his make-believe, and points out that the emperor has no clothes.

The Scriptures recognize that the Gospel of Jesus Christ is a "stumbling block" and "foolishness" to all men of every age and culture. However, to seek to remove the scandal from the message is to make void the cross of Christ and its saving power. We must understand that the Gospel is not only scandalous, but it is supposed to be! Through the foolishness of the Gospel, God has ordained to destroy the wisdom of the wise, frustrate the intelligence of the greatest minds, and humble the pride of all men. To the end that no flesh may boast in His presence, but just as it is written, "Let him who boasts, boast in the Lord."

Paul's Gospel not only contradicted the religion, philosophy, and culture of the day, but it declared war on them. It refused truce or treaty with the world and would settle for nothing less than culture's absolute surrender to the Lordship of Jesus Christ. We would do well to

follow Paul's example. We must be careful to shun every temptation to conform our Gospel to the trends of the day or the desires of carnal men. We have no right to water down its offense or civilize its radical demands in order to make it more appealing to a fallen world or carnal church members.

Our churches are filled with strategies to make them more seekerfriendly by repackaging the Gospel, removing the stumbling block, and taking the edge off the blade, so that it might be more acceptable to carnal men. We ought to be seeker-friendly, but we ought to realize this - there is only One seeker and He is God. If we are striving to make our church and message accommodating, let us make them accommodating to Him.

If we are striving to build a church or ministry, let us build it upon a passion to glorify God, and a desire not to offend His majesty. To the wind with what the world thinks about us. We are not to seek the honors of earth, but the honor of heaven should be our desire.

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## Paul Washer

*Paul Washer became a believer while studying at the University of Texas. He completed his undergraduate studies and enrolled at Southwestern Theological Seminary, where he received his Master of Divinity degree. After graduating, he moved to Peru and served there as a missionary.*



*Paul ministered as a missionary in Peru for 10 years, during which time he founded the HeartCry Missionary Society to support Peruvian church planters.*

*Heart Cry's work now supports over 100 indigenous missionaries in over 20 countries throughout Eastern Europe, South America, Africa, Asia, and the Middle East.*

*Paul now serves as one of the laborers with the HeartCry Missionary Society ([www.heartcrymissionary.com](http://www.heartcrymissionary.com)). He and his wife Charo have three children: Ian, Evan, and Rowan.*



**About** the **Father's**  
**business**

## ◆ Josh Page

**M**any people have embraced this well-known saying as their model for reaching the world for Christ: "Preach always; if necessary, use words."

It is a thought-provoking statement and implies that a godly life will speak for itself and influence people toward Christ. People will somehow understand the Gospel without us having to actually open our mouths and share the Gospel with them.

Our lifestyle is undoubtedly a crucial element in our witness for Christ and His Gospel. Our daily life is a reflection of our heart. If we have forgiveness of sins and eternal life, we ought to be the most loving and humble people on this earth. We should seek everyday to testify of Christ in everything we do. We are a terrible witness to the world if we are not living a godly life.

But friends, our duty to share the Gospel with the world cannot stop with a godly life. We must open our mouth and share the message of salvation with them. If the believers in the early church had embraced this model for evangelism for their world, then we would not have the Book of Acts - there would be no account of Phillip talking to the Ethiopian Eunuch, or Peter open-air preaching to large crowds, or Paul reasoning with people daily in the market place and the synagogues.

Friends, we must warn people of God's coming judgment and share the Good News of the Gospel with them. We must plead with people to turn from their sin and trust wholly in Christ. We see this demonstrated in Scripture and commanded by Jesus.

*"Go into all the world and preach the Gospel to all creation"* (Mark 16:15). If our witness to this world is primarily through our lifestyle, then we have a lot of competition: Mormon's, Jehovah's Witnesses, atheists and other non-believers can be very moral and loving people. I have even heard of atheist organizations that go and help people rebuild their homes after natural disasters.

Anyone can be loving and kind, but what a non-Christian does not have is the powerful soul-saving Gospel of Jesus Christ. The Gospel is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who

believes. We must share this treasure with the world; it is their only hope.

*"How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!"* Romans 10:14-15

Will a lost person really look at the life of a Christian friend and be able to gather from his life that they themselves are guilty and corrupt in heart, that Jesus came into this world and lived a perfect life and sacrificed Himself in their place, that He rose from the dead on the third day, and that if they will repent and trust in Christ they will be saved? Will they understand all of that just from watching the Christian's life?

If a building were on fire, we wouldn't just stand by the side and hope that people trapped inside will look out their window and see how nice and safe we are and somehow get the idea that they should evacuate immediately or else they will perish. No! We would run to them. We would open our mouth and plead with them, "Friends, evacuate or you will perish!! Get to safety! This building is on fire!"

Hell fire is just ahead for so many. We must warn people while there is still time.

I was walking in a Philadelphia neighborhood one evening when a car zoomed past me rapidly and smashed into the back of a parked U-Haul truck a few yards away. I ran over immediately to see if the driver was okay, but he would not acknowledge me. His doors were locked and his windows were up. He was intoxicated and in shock. As the minutes passed, more and more people came over to see what they could do to help. The man's engine soon erupted into flames! Because of the impact of the crash, his hood was dented upward and blocked him from being able to see the fire. He had no idea of the flames that were right before him!

Adrenaline was racing through us now! We shouted at the man to get out of the car because his life was in danger. People even started throwing rocks at his windows to get him out.

When the police arrived, they rushed to his car with their guns drawn and got him out! When he was safe and taken into custody, I walked home and thought about what had just happened. Suddenly, a sobering thought dawned on me -

People sit in the driver's seat of life intoxicated by all sorts of distractions. All the while, they have no idea of the flames of Hell that lie before them if they die without Christ. They are blind.

As we walk through life, we can clearly see the danger they are in because we have been pulled from that same disaster by the grace of God.

We must run to them with a sense of urgency and warn them of God's coming judgment and tell them the Good News of His great love. We must pull out the guns of God's Law, the Ten Commandments, and show them the terrible nature of their sin before a holy God so they will understand their need for the Savior.

Time is short and souls are perishing. Let us be about our Father's business in these final days!

## Josh Page

*Josh Page lives in St. Petersburg, Florida, USA where he leads a street evangelism ministry called Team Hope. He and others from his church go out weekly to local beaches, festivals, and downtown areas to share the Gospel of salvation with the lost.*



*Josh will soon be moving to Oradea, Romania to partner with Pathway to Joy Ministries to care for orphaned and Gypsy children and to bring the powerful Gospel of Jesus Christ to them and their families.*

*Josh has been a child of God for nearly ten years and has been sharing his faith daily for five years. He has had the privilege of sharing the Gospel not only with locals and tourists from all around the world, but also with celebrities like Hulk Hogan and Dianne Sawyer.*

*Josh's life mission is to preach the Gospel and make much of Christ.*



#### ◆ Ray Comfort

**T**wo hundred years ago, “rational” thinking folks would have mocked you if you spoke of the possibility of massive jumbo jets floating through the air filled with human beings. Any sensible person knew that massively heavy objects couldn’t possibly float through the air, as though they were lighter than a feather.

They “knew” this because of an invisible law—the law of gravity. But we now know that this is possible, because of another law that overcomes gravity. When an object moves at a certain speed, it supersedes the invisible law of gravity and enters into another invisible law—the law of aerodynamics. Gravity remains, but the heavy object breaks free from its influence.

The Bible says that all of humanity is subject to an invisible law—“the law of sin and death.” That law says that the soul who sins will die. Those who deny that it exists should simply take a trip to a graveyard (they will one day). Universal death proves that this law is a reality.

However, because of the cross of Jesus Christ, we can break free from the law of sin and death. The moment you repent and trust in the risen Saviour, you move into the influence of another invisible law. This is a higher law—“the law of life in Christ Jesus”—and it is simple to prove. You need only to step into the plane. Tragically, most don’t, because of a closed mind.

*“For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death”  
(Romans 8:2)*

# PLANE speaking

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