



# Putting things in perspective

On the first day of July, people will gather around to see the fireworks. In fact, they'll come from far and wide to be part of the celebration. Fireworks last only for a few minutes and then everyone goes home. It's been a pretty show – they burn brightly and everyone enjoys them while they last. But they cost a lot of dollars for anyone putting on the program. One would wonder if the money could be better spent with something that lasted a little longer. All you have left is a bunch of ashes and a memory.

When the Bible talks about Moses in the book of Hebrews, it says that he refused to be called Pharaoh's son but chose rather to suffer affliction with the people of Israel than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin. Sadly, the pleasures are only momentary but the consequences lead to death. In some parts of the country, there is a plant called bindweed that grows along the roads or in the fields or yards. It has the prettiest flower on it, looking rather like a morning glory, and everyone that sees it wonders what wild flower it might be. But that plant slowly crawls up anything it touches, winding it's tendrils up healthy plants, and chokes the life out of anything good. Sin is like that too. Looks good, feels good, burns brightly for a season but in the end, you have nothing left but dead leaves or ashes. "Choose you this day whom you will serve." Joshua 24:15

**A special note:** There are changes afoot with the magazine for the future. The cost of postage keeps going up and we are finding it necessary to make alternate arrangements. We are asking that you do one of two things: let us know if you wish to continue to receive a copy of the magazine in the mail; or – start looking for the current issue on our website [www.canadianchristiancowboys.ca](http://www.canadianchristiancowboys.ca). If you wish to continue to receive this by mail, please contact either Terry Baker, John Fitzherbert or me, Trish Manske. All of our phone numbers and email addresses are on the inside back cover. If we do not hear from you, your name will be removed from the mail list.

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**CHRISTIAN  
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CARRYING THE MESSAGE OF CHRIST TO THE COWBOY WORLD



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CARRYING THE MESSAGE OF CHRIST TO THE COWBOY WORLD



CANADIAN FELLOWSHIP of  
**CHRISTIAN  
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**Grow where you are planted**

by Shaun Anderson

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THE HARVEST SEASON IS FAST APPROACHING AS SUMMER GIVES WAY TO AUTUMN.

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SALVATION PRAYER:

“Will I go to heaven when I die? Can I have peace and blessing in my life? The answer is YES - by asking Jesus to be your Lord and Savior. Pray a prayer like this... “Dear God, I am a sinner, separated from You. I am sorry for my sins and I ask you to forgive me. I accept Jesus as my Savior and the Lord of my life. Thank you Jesus for dying for me on the cross so I can have peace in my life and a home in heaven to live forever with You. Help me Holy Spirit to live a life pleasing to God, my Father. In Jesus name, Amen.” If you’ve prayed this prayer, please contact anyone listed on the Directory at the back. We would love to pray with you and send you a free Cowboy Bible and some literature to help you get started on this exciting journey.”

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# Southern Grazing

~ TRISH MANSKE ~

## Walking the Christian Walk

I was wondering recently how it would be possible to earn God's applause. The Bible tells us that we are supposed to be perfect as He is perfect (Matthew 5:48). In this life, there are many that expect a person to be perfect. We talk about something being a perfect fit, a perfect match or this or that food is cooked to perfection. Even in the sports arena, we want athletes to obtain a perfect score. And who wouldn't want to be considered a perfect "10"? Often we are very intolerant of those that make errors.

How many students do you know that ever get a perfect 100% on a test? Wouldn't it be nice to go to a doctor or lawyer that had received perfect marks on all their exams? Or fly with a pilot that never made a mistake? But if you think that's impossible, take God's test on holiness.

I must admit to being just a bit of a perfectionist as well although I never seem to achieve it. I took piano lessons as a youngster and my teacher was always striving for that perfection in me. And I know that if you go far enough in music to take what is called your ARCT in piano, they expect you to have the perfect notes, the perfect phrasing and the perfect loudness or softness. But if we can't reach perfection, how can we receive God's applause?

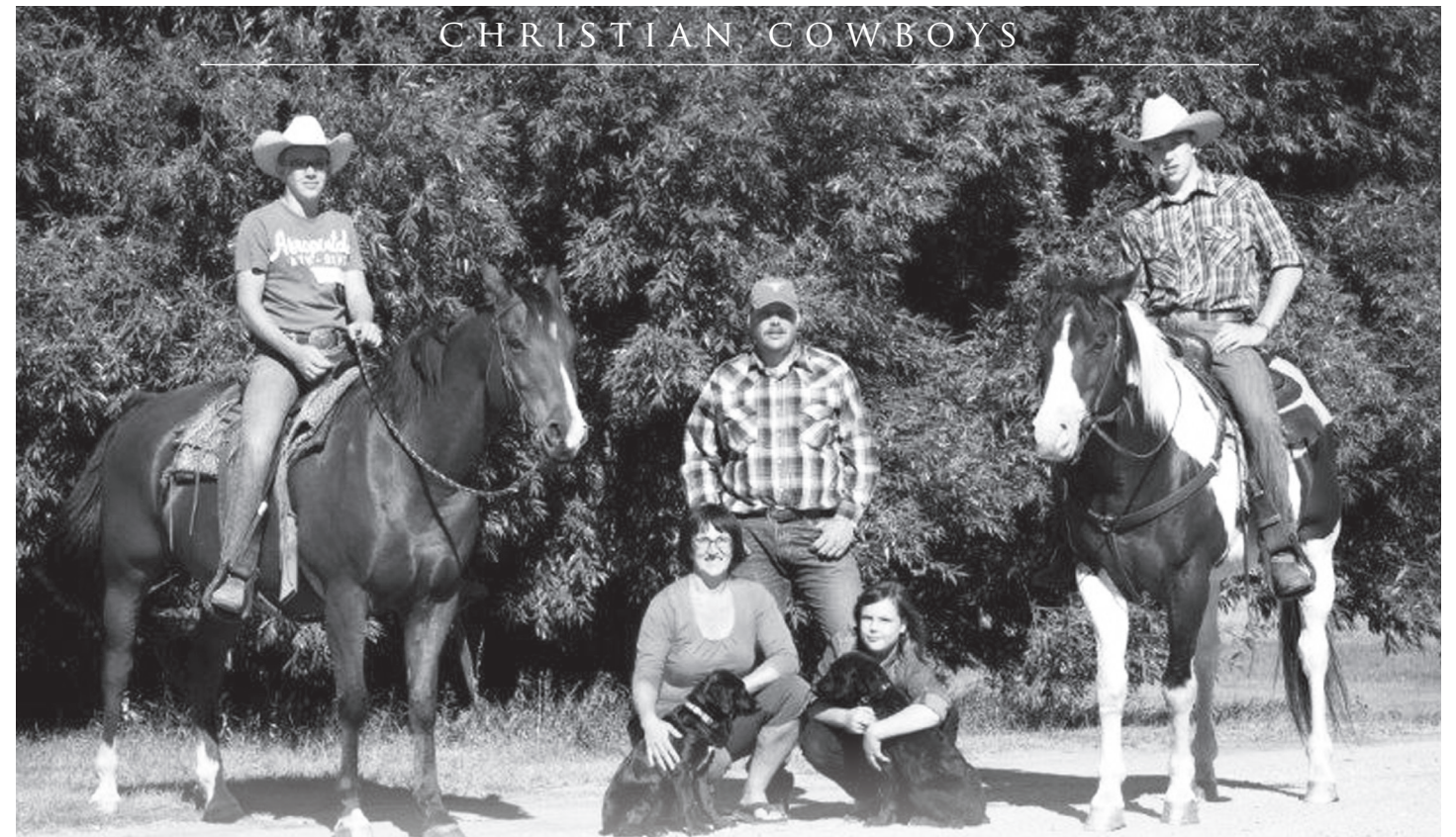
Hebrews 12:2 says that Jesus is the author and perfecter of our faith. In other words, He does what we can't. Everything we need to receive God's applause comes through Jesus Christ. We are the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus. We don't add anything.

There's really no point in spending your life "trying" to please God through your own efforts. We can't possibly love enough, pray enough, read enough scripture or witness enough to please Him. His standards are way too high no matter how committed you might be to walking the Christian walk.

It is Christ that works in us both to will and to do His good pleasure. (Phil. 2:12-13) Virtually, we have to give up and let Him do it in us. God created the perfect plan when Christ went to the cross on our behalf. He was the perfect sacrifice. He did it to prove His love for us and to reconcile us to the true meaning of His relationship with us. The only way to receive God's applause is through our relationship with His Son, Jesus.

Have you ever attended a school Christmas program where all the little rug rats are up on the stage singing and dancing and performing for their parents and teachers? Some child invariably forgets his lines, forgets where he's supposed to be standing or refuses to do his part. And yet, when they are all done, the mom and dad jump up to take a picture and clap like everything because they are so proud of their little boy or girl. Does that applause come from performance? Absolutely not. It comes from relationship and love.

Want to come to perfection and receive a "well done" from the Father? Allow Him to establish a fellowship and relationship with you. It'll take all the pressure off of you to perform and gives tremendous peace to know He loves you no matter what.



## GROW WHERE YOU ARE PLANTED

SHAUN ANDERSON

I'm a custom fencer by trade and after thinking about this article, it dawned on me that the Christian life is a lot like the electric fence system. When I was first introduced to electric fencing over 20 years ago, I struggled with the concept of it which led me to take a fencing course. After taking just two sessions, (I'm a slow learner), the simplicity of the electric fence system hit me like a ton of bricks. I had finally "seen the light".

Here is a description from the Will Gallagher website that describes how an electric fence system works: "Electric fence is a psychological barrier that keeps animals in and wild animals and predators out. A pulse of electric current is sent along the fence wire, about one pulse per second, from an energizer which is grounded. When the animal touches the fence, it completes the circuit between the fence and the ground and receives a short, sharp but safe shock. The shock

is sufficiently memorable that the animal never forgets. Because it is a psychological barrier, it does not require great physical strength. However, it must be well designed and constructed to absorb some pressure from animals, snow and wind. The energizer must have enough power for the length of the fence and for the animals being controlled."

You're probably wondering how I can see the parallel to our Christian faith in this system. I see God as the ultimate energizer and we are to be grounded in His word, the Bible. I see the wire representing the Church – the church universal as well as our local body of believers. The wire is to be held up and supported by us as and we are the posts. As in the electric fence system, the only way the current can flow is if the wire is properly connected to the energizer. We also have to remain connected to God's Word, connected to fellow believers and connected to our communities.

I'm proud to say that I call Virden home. It's not a perfect community but it's pretty good. It's where I feel God has planted me and my family. All God calls us to



# GROW WHERE YOU ARE PLANTED

continued

do is to be obedient to Him and follow His leading in our lives. How does He call us? By His Holy Spirit.

In order for the pulse of electric current to flow properly, the wires must be free of corrosion and obstructions. Likewise, we as Christian individuals and as a Body of Christ must remain free of obstructions – things like addictions, pride and other forms of sin. We must deal with our sin and seek God’s forgiveness. On the fence, if the wire is clean and the current can flow properly, you will see a very distinct brown line of burnt vegetation under the wires almost like the grass had been sprayed with an herbicide. People should see the same distinct line in our lives. When an animal comes close to the fence, they should be able to see where the boundary is and if the fence has been built correctly, animals will actually be able to feel the current before they touch the fence. Can the people in your life feel the current of the Holy Spirit flowing through you?

Animals touching the fence complete the circuit between the fence and the ground and receive a short, sharp but safe shock. It is sufficiently memorable that the animal never forgets and is proportional to the size of that animal. I was watching a two day old calf bump into our electric fence. He let out a calf sized beller and then, because it was a first time experience for him, he went back for a second shock. But that was it – he now knew where the boundary was. We haven’t been called to be the judge and jury, but some Christians treat their calling as an opportunity to hit the non-believer with 600 volts. We are to be obedient servants of Christ. We are called to “complete the circuit between others and Christ”, allowing the Holy Spirit to flow through us and shine Christ’s love into their lives.

Some of us are going to be part of the main fence while others of us are going to be used like a temp fence, moved about wherever God sees fit. As a member of

the Fellowship of Christian Cowboys, you are reaching a certain group of men and women that are unique and have a perceived mystery about them. The cool thing is that although god has designed us all uniquely, we all have something that allows us to relate to each other.

Sometimes, God calls us to do things that are difficult. A few years ago, our fencing business was the recipient for a PST audit. The result was that we had to come up with \$18,500. We felt God calling us to clean up this mess which meant that I had to go out and find a winter job. Tina and I decided that we would do whatever it took to get this situation mended. As a friend of mine was a supervisor for an oilfield trucking company, I gave him a call. I had a good idea of what was entailed – long hours, lots of off color stories and jokes and working with a group of people that were focused only on themselves. It was a perfect fit. I needed the hours, the pay was good and most importantly, there was a mission field. The patch is full of people that don’t even think about God never mind realizing that they are eternally lost without Him.

We are His chosen method of reaching lost souls. I was able to have many interesting conversations with the people I worked with and once we had established relationships with each other, the opportunities that Christ gave me were amazing. Are we ready and willing to move when the Holy Spirit nudges us? Don’t wait until you have cleared all the vegetation off your fence. The reality is that we live in a fallen world, and we are perfected only in Christ. The obstructions that impede the Holy Spirit on “our fence line” are also what allow us to be relatable to those around us. God uses us in spite of our imperfections. He isn’t seeking perfect people – He is just looking for obedient people. Proverbs 3:5-6 states, “Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek His will in all you do, and He will show you which path to take.”

# ONE DAY TOO LATE

As I sat and pondered as to what I should share, I realized that a lot of my preachin’ comes from things that have happened out on the pasture.....so you can be sure it will involve a steer or two and more than likely a horse!! This spring I had moved all my cattle out to grass, except for a pen of heifers. I could never seem to find the time to get this task done amongst all the other projects I was busy with. It really wasn’t that big of a deal, all I really had to do was open the gate, but didn’t want to as I hadn’t been round to check the fence. I got up one morning and thought, “this will be a good day to check that fence and finally get those heifers to grass”. Well.....they had their own plans and decided to leave without any direction from me. I guess they got tired of waiting on me and as a result....I was “One day too late”. With all the mud around, it wasn’t too hard to find them, PTL!!! They had gone over to my other pasture to hang with the rest of the cattle. When I first saw them, they appeared to be quite content, laying down on the outside of the fence. Once again, I thought shouldn’t be a big deal....I’ll just quietly ride around them, move them from the fence line and take them to the home pasture, all will be good. Anyone who has cattle knows that this is very seldom the case, but I was very optimistic. Once the herd of cattle saw me coming, they took off, the heifers ran through the fence to join them and I knew it could end up being long day!!! Because I choose to use the gates, all of the cattle had made their way to the far side of the pasture before I caught up to them. The first thing I did was look for the new born calf that should have been with one of the heifers. I saw mama, but no baby, so I turned around and headed back the way the cows came. Reminds me of Luke 15:4, “What man of you having a hundred sheep. If he loses one of them does not leave the ninety nine in the wilderness and go after the one which is lost until he finds it.” That’s what I did, I left the rest to go look for the one that was lost. When I got to the first muddy runway, where I thought the calf might have got stuck, you know what was there; a big fat coyote (the enemy was there waiting). The first thing I thought was you rascal....you got my calf. I looked around there, but no evidence of a calf, so I rode back to where I had first seen the heifers, asking the Lord to show me where my calf was. As I got closer to the willows, I could see two little ears sticking up and said “Praise the Lord”!!! Luke 15:5:6, and when he found it, he lays it on his shoulders rejoicing.” (I just roped the little fellow and tied him down, rejoicing. Usually I will carry them in front of the saddle, but my horse wouldn’t have anything to with that on this particular day.) “And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors saying rejoice with me for I have found my sheep (calf) which was lost”. I called my dad, who just happened to be heading up my way with the trailer, to see if he could drop in and pick up the calf. I wasn’t long in letting him know how happy I was to find the calf alive and well!! Luke 15:7, “I say to you likewise, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine just persons who need no repentance”. I rode back, gath-

ered up the heifers and after a few trips with the trailer, got them in the home pasture....and it only took me all morning!!! Things certainly would have been a lot easier, if I hadn’t put off tending to that fence.

Luke 19:10 very clearly states, that Jesus came to seek and save that which is lost. That’s what I did when I went looking for my calf....what else would I do as it’s only natural to go look for what is lost. It is Jesus’ desire that none shall perish and that’s why we’re in this ministry; to seek and get those saved who are lost.....that’s you if you don’t have Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour. What are you waiting for, why risk the chance on being “One Day too late”. Phil 2:10 says, every knee will bow before Christ and every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord. When that day comes... and trust me it will, you don’t want to be meeting with Jesus without having Him as your personal Saviour. 1 Thes 5:9, “for God did not appoint us to wrath but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.” It is not God’s intent for us to suffer wrath, but to be walking in victory through the salvation which only comes through Jesus Christ. So again I ask.... what’s holding you back? Isa 55:6-7, “Seek the Lord while He may be found. Call on Him while He is near. Let the wicked forsake his ways and the unrighteous man his thoughts, Let him return to the Lord and He will have mercy on him and to our God for He will abundantly pardon”. So it is my prayer, that you know God loves you and that you will trust and believe in His plan of salvation through the Lord Jesus Christ. We in this ministry would love to help you and will rejoice with you and the heavens, as you find repentance and salvation in Christ!!!!

We have had a good summer, with different opportunities for ministry. Once again, we entered a team at the Carberry Ranch Rodeo, in honor of Wayne Wieler, who sat on the board for as long as he could and was a faithful and obedient follower of Christ. Our Western Gatherin brought out a good crowd; thanks to Paul Unrau for his continual support through the horse clinics, Joel Hamm for driving the distance to teach us some ranch roping, the Thiessen Brothers and Per Vinding for providing the music ministry, Ashley Janzen for keeping all the kids happy, and to Shaun Anderson for bringing the word on Sunday morning.

I also would like to let you know that the Canadian board are going to be making some changes to the Fellowship of Christian Cowboys magazine. Due to the rise in postage and the cost of printing, we are unable to continue sending a printed version of the magazine to you without financial support. The magazine will be published on our website [www.canadianchristiancowboys.ca](http://www.canadianchristiancowboys.ca). If you aren’t computer savvy or wish to continue receiving a printed version, I ask that you contact me or John Fitzherbert before the December issue so that arrangements can be made.

God Bless; Terry Baker



# The Benefits of Giving

by John Fitzherbert

In Genesis 12, God called Abram from his country to the land that is now Israel. Genesis 12:3 gives us some of the promises that God gave to Abram that still apply to us today. “I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.” Abram did not understand what that meant (just like a lot of us don’t understand that we are blessed.) If he had understood in the time of famine, he maybe would not have gone to Egypt and lied about his wife, Sarai. In spite of the things he did there, God kept His word and blessed him abundantly. Vs. 12 says, “He (that is – Pharaoh) treated Abram well for her sake.” He had sheep, oxen, male donkeys, male and female servants, female donkeys and camels. Even though he did wrong, He left Egypt with a lot more stuff than he went in with.

Later on in Genesis 14, we read how Lot, Abram’s brother’s son, was taken prisoner and Abram went to bring him and all that he owned back to his own home. He took 318 trained servants – that means men of war who knew how to fight that were born in his own house. We don’t know how many men the enemy had but that didn’t matter because God blessed Abram again. He won the battle and brought back Lot and all his household and possessions and a lot more spoil from the people he fought. This is also where we read of the first tithe being given. I had a picture in my mind of Abram going to Canaan, of an old man leading a donkey with his wife on it, a few sheep and goats and perhaps a cart or two with their tents and food. That is totally wrong. If he had 318 men of war born in his house, just think of the mothers and fathers and all the livestock it took to support them. Wow, Abram had a huge gathering following him. The Lord promised that Abram would be the father of many – Genesis 13:16, “And I will make your descendants as the dust of the earth; so that if a man could number the dust of the earth, then your descendants also could be numbered.” But Abram had trouble believing because he had no children of his own. We will continue this next issue.

Many of us have trouble believing that God will bless us. Remember when we are born again, we are entering into a covenant with God All Mighty through His Son, Jesus Christ. He will keep His part. How about us? Deuteronomy 7:9, “Therefore know that the Lord your God, He is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and mercy for a thousand generations with those who love Him and keep His commandments. Today, we can thank God for His promises in His Word that still apply to us.

## IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING THIS MAGAZINE

Due to the increasing cost of postage, the Canadian Board of FCC has decided that we must look at different options for the delivery of this magazine in the future. Please respond to one of the following options:

1. I will continue to receive the magazine by mail
2. I will take the magazine from the Christian Cowboy website

If we do not hear from you, we will assume you either do not wish to receive the magazine or that you are taking it on the website and your name will be removed from the current mail list.

Please contact	Terry Baker	204-849-2154	tdbaker2012@gmail.com
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	Trish Manske	306-267-4844	apmanske@explornet.ca

Thank you for your prompt response. The Canadian Board of the Fellowship of Christian Cowboys

# REPORT

## FROM JOHN FITZHERBERT

# Hi Folks.

The last few days have sure felt like fall – not too hot days and cool nights. I can’t believe that summer is gone already and what a summer it was. Wet June, then boiling hot July and most of August. Most crops are wonderful with a few suffered with too much water and some too much heat. It has been a real busy time on the rodeo trail. I have had one Sunday off since way back in May. We gave away lots of Bibles and other books, but we did not see that great number of people coming to Jesus that I long to see.

I was asked to sing a song at the Rodeo Cowboy Church a week ago, one of the lines in the song is “This old world of ours is full of trouble.” That sure is true today. Matthew 24:6, “Jesus said, And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet.” Hamas and Israel have called a truce after their month plus war. I think that will last long enough for Hamas to import more rockets to fire at Israel. These people will not stop fighting until they have pushed Israel into the sea and that won’t happen because the Bible tells us that God has given that land to Israel forever, Deut. 4:40. So that war will continue till the Lord puts an end to it. Elsewhere, Arabs are killing each other because of differences in their religious doctrine. USA is making a feeble attempt to stop some of the killing. Could this lead to more attacks on the US on their own land? The Bible prophecies in Matthew 24 are fast coming to pass – another earthquake in California. I think it’s a good time to be a Christian.

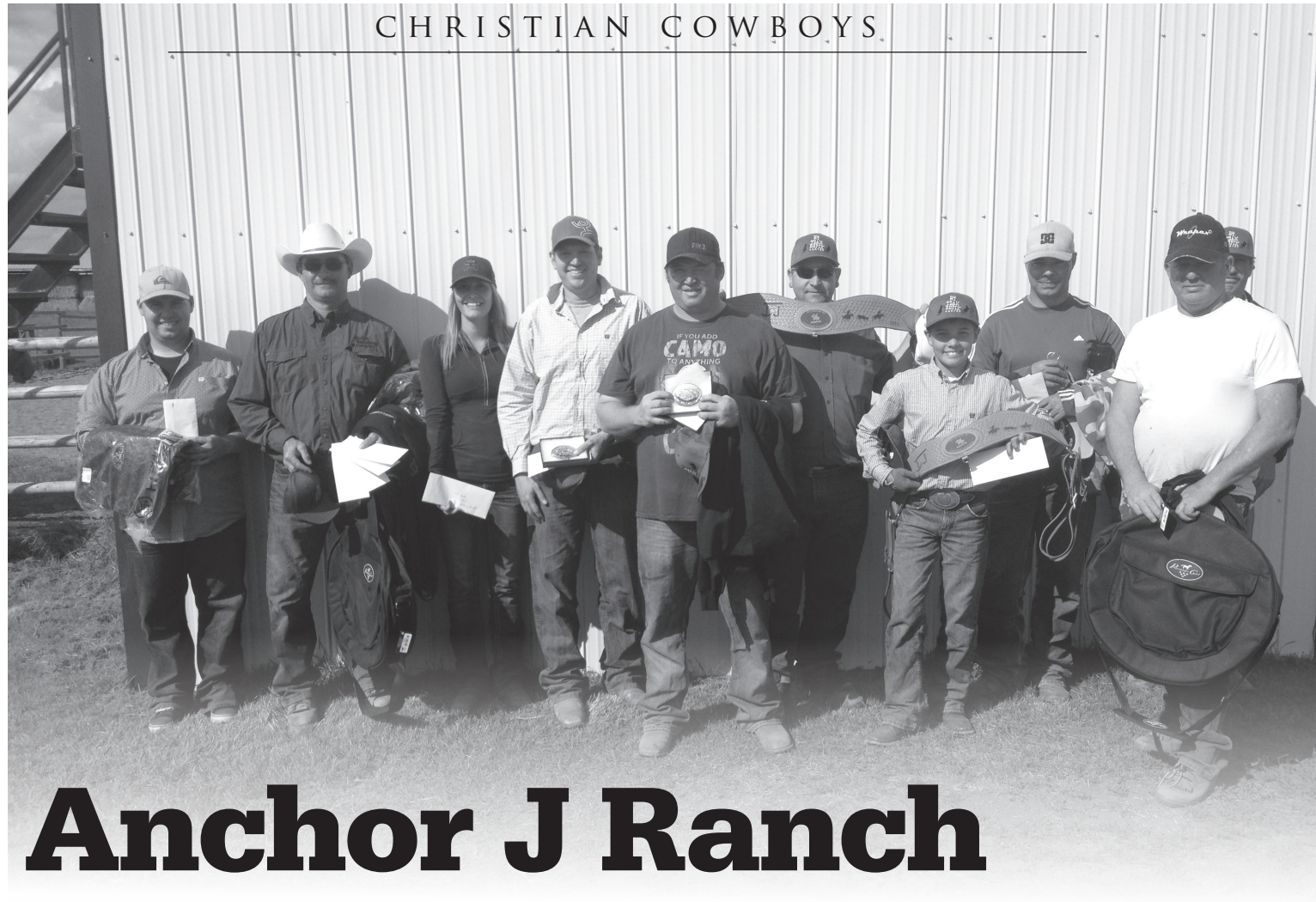
We are in the process of changing our website. Heather Hart has been looking after it since we established it a few years ago. We thank her very very much for all the work that she has put into it. The person taking over is Debbie Graham from Longview, Alberta. Debbie has a good knowledge of computers and their function. I think she will do a good job. But she will need your help.

She told me to ask you to send her your praise reports, prayer request, upcoming events etc. so that she can put them on the web. Her phone number is 403-558-3994 and her cell number is 403-652-8996. Her email account is cowboymiracle@gmail.com. She works during the day so the best time to talk would be early evening. www.canadianchristiancowboys.ca will still be in use.

The next item is – we are revamping our mail list for the magazine. At a recent meeting of the Board, it was decided that due to the high cost of postage, we must look at different options. They are: ( 1.) You wish to continue to receive the magazine through the mail ( 2.) You wish to get the magazine off the Christian Cowboy website. If we don’t hear from you, we will assume you have chosen to use the internet and your name will be taken off the mail list. You can contact President Terry Baker, Secretary John Fitzherbert or the magazine editor, Trish Manske. Their names and numbers are at the back of this magazine. We don’t want to miss any of you who like this magazine, so please, please respond today. It has been quite a few years since we have upgraded our mail list so it must be done. We look forward to hearing from you.

God’s blessings.





# Anchor J Ranch Team Roping Camp

BY BRETT CAMPBELL

Well, the sixth annual Anchor J Ranch (McCarroll Family) free team roping camp is in the books. There were about 50 students in attendance this year. We were blessed with some excellent weather, great food, fellowship, teaching, laughs and a lot of roping. The weekend included significant ground instruction and horsemanship instruction and we enjoyed a safe weekend.

*The Lord calls us to different, live-giving priorities and we know that real life and eternal blessing is found in Jesus.*

The camp always includes many competitions and jackpots. The winners of the dummy roping contests included Colton Bamber and Denim Fletcher. Denim Fletcher won the “Heel-O-Matic” jackpot on the heels and Carson Fletcher on the head end. Scott McDowell and Brett McCarroll dominated the “Rope with a Pro” jackpot with a time of 19.1/3. The always popular “Lil Red” dummy roping jackpot had over 70 teams this year and Baxter Forsyth and Orrin Ellis reigned supreme. Certainly, all had a lot of fun.

On Sunday, the McCarrolls at Anchor J Ranch hosted the 17th annual Fellowship of Christian Cowboys Jackpot. There were exactly 150 teams this year to rope for the coveted buckles. The results are as follows:

**1st Steve Gross and Kyle Pushie 32.6/4  
for \$1250 and Olson Buckles**

**2nd Brent Harvey and Shaun Ellis 36.6/4  
for \$1126 and Rope Bags**

**3rd Couy McBride and Scott McDowell 38.1/4  
for \$1000 and Breast Collars**

**4th Cody McBride and Shaun Ellis 42.0/4  
for \$876 and Classic Bits**

**5th Cody McBride and Whitney Banks 51.9/4  
for \$688**

**6th Tom Moore and Shaun Ellis 52.3/4  
for \$562**

**7th Greg Kelts and Scott McDowell 53.4/4  
for \$440**

**8th Steve Gross and Shaun Ellis 23.2/3  
for \$312**

We would like to acknowledge and especially thank our sponsors Tanked H2O (Blaine Murphy and family), Lammles, Steve Gross family, Fellowship of Christian Cowboys and the McCarroll family.

The question gets asked every year, “Why do you guys do this for free?” The response is usually a straightforward and yet life changing response. “It is all because of Jesus!” The purpose of this annual camp is not to focus on the finer details of roping and create the next generation of World Champions in rodeo. This may happen as a by-product. The main purpose of the camp is to expose people with common interests in rodeo to our Savior Jesus Christ.

Team roping provides the medium in which to relate to people or build the relationship and trust. Because the Lord has gifted the McCarroll boys with talent and success in rodeo, they have a platform from which to tell the Gospel Good News and be respected by their peers in rodeo and looked-up-to by many young aspiring cowboys.

This year, the message came through loud and clear. Cody McCarroll shared on the highs and lows of a rodeo career and stressed the importance of finding a balance in life that consists of a focus on God 1st, family second and rodeo and any other interest a distant third. Many teens and young adults get “lost” in the rodeo scene, completely engulfed by a life of hard living and bad focus. The Lord calls us to different, live-giving priorities and we know that real life and eternal blessing is found in Jesus.

Justin McCarroll shared his rodeo experiences and the need to prioritize life as well. Justin also expanded on the salvation message as God’s free gift to mankind to make us right with God. It is certainly not about what we can accomplish on our own in this world that matters but rather what we do with what Jesus gave us at the cross that truly matters. We must also remember that the cross to a 1st century Jew living in Roman territory would have been highly offensive. The cross was the symbol of torture and crucifixion. So, when Jesus calls all Christians to take up their crosses and follow him in Luke 9:23, He is calling us to an amazing eternal kingdom that may not be all sunshine and roses here on earth, as we all have likely experienced. To follow Jesus can be a difficult path but the reward for eternity is worth every struggle.

Ivan Wigemyr brought the Gospel message on Sunday at the jackpot as the ropers took a break for lunch and a church service. It is always awesome to see so many gruff old cowboys sit and listen to the good news of Jesus Christ as our savior. Ivan speaks from the point of view of a man who was literally rescued from addictions here on earth and given a new hope and life in Jesus for now and eternity. Ivan stressed the importance of choices in one’s life and that the most important decision you can ever make is to put your faith and trust in Jesus.

It has been incredibly rewarding for the McCarroll family to see so many cowboys put their trust in Jesus as Savior over the years. Lives have certainly been changed by the work of the Lord in the rodeo community here in Alberta. We thank God daily for the opportunity to serve Him and live our lives for an eternal purpose.

God Bless