## FELLOWSHIP CHRISTIAN COWBOYS

LIFE & TIMES OF JESSE REMPEL | PAGE 1 ROPING SCHOOL & JACKPOT | PAGE 4

CHAPTER DIRECTORY | INSERT

CARRYING THE MESSAGE OF CHRIST TO THE COWBOY WORLD

**TESTIMONY** OF JESSE REMPEL

CANADIAN FELLOWSHIP 07

# CHRISTIAN

www.canadianchristiancowboys.ca

rbara L. Glazer©

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Little Bobby was spending the weekend with his grandmother. His grandmother decided to take him to the park on Saturday morning. It had been snowing all night and everything was beautiful.

His grandmother remarked...

"Doesn't it look like an artist painted this scenery? Did you know God painted this just for you?"

Bobby said, "Yes, God did it and he did it left handed."

This confused his grandmother a bit, and she asked him "What makes you say God did this with his left hand?"

"Well," said Bobby, "we learned at Sunday School last week that Jesus sits on God's right hand!"



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Isaiah 44:22 - Your sins were like a big cloud, but I wiped them all away. Your sins are gone, like a cloud that disappeared into thin air. I rescued and protected you, so come back to me."

We are forgiven! Are you letting doubt and shame separate you from Him?

## 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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I pray
to be Led to
and by you

Submission deadline for next issue is December 30th, 2017



## "Whatever the Future Holds I Know my King is in Control" TESTIMONY OF JESSE REMPEL BY JESSE REMPEL

I was born and raised not too far southeast of Swift Current, Saskatchewan on a farm/ranch. I am very thankful to God for the upbringing I had. I was raised in a home where Mom and Dad stressed the importance of going to church, reading your bible and prayer. I can remember from quite a young age being diligent in reading my bible regularly, however it was always from the standpoint of "what can I get out of this" or "what can God do for me". I had a very self-centred approach to reading the bible and Christianity.

Despite my shallow theology and lopsided view of who God was I do believe it was in these years that God saved me. I had a recognition that I was a sinner and needed something outside of myself to save me. I believed that Jesus Christ payed the penalty on the Cross for my sins and I was wholly trusting in his name and work on the cross for my salvation. Looking back, I do think this was the start of God's calling on my life and I am so thankful to look back and see how God has worked in my life and caused me to grow to have a more proper and biblical view of who he is.

I was baptized at the age of sixteen and became a member of our local church in the small village of Rhineland, Saskatchewan. I continued to attend there until leaving home some years later. Through these years I was also greatly blessed and encouraged through the ministry of our associate pastor in our youth group at church. He always pointed me towards truth and to the word of God for answers which I am so thankful for. I am sadly realizing how rare this is becoming in a culture

which seems to hold our emotions on the same level or even higher level than the word of God. I was grateful to have a mentor who always pointed me toward the truth, namely Jesus Christ (John 14:6).

After high school I attended one year at Millar College of the Bible located in Pambrun, Saskatchewan. This was definitely a key turning point for me. I don't think I realized up until attending bible college how much I had been impacted by tradition. I guess I just assumed every one just believed exactly what I believed and there were no disputes about anything in all of Christendom! I definitely had a rude awakening and had a whole new zeal to seek what God's word said for myself without taking anyone else's word for it.

One other event really stands out to me from college. I guess to this point I still had a very elevated view of myself and a rather small view of who God was. In class one day we were going through the book of Numbers and the Professor was talking about the nation of Israel's sin against God and because of their sin and unbelief that they didn't believe God's word that they would be able to defeat the Canaanites and enter the promised land. Because they doubted God and sinned he caused them to wander in the wilderness for forty years until every single person from that generation had passed away. God did not need these people to accomplish his plan, and because of their sin they bore their iniquity. The next generation of Israelites would be the ones to inherit the promised and those that believed God and took him at his word. After this the professor's point was simple "Who

## **Testimony of** Jesse Rempel

#### continued...

are we to think that we are important enough that in our apathy God is just begging us and waiting for us because he needs us to accomplish his will." God is sovereign and he will accomplish his plan but he is looking for the obedient and humble at heart". Isaiah 66:2 says "All these things my hand has made and so all these things came to be declared the Lord, but this is the one to whom I will look, he who is humble and contrite in spirit and trembles at my word". I don't know if I have ever had a more sobering moment in all my life.

Plainly put I was terrified! God really convicted me of my elevated view of myself and I had a whole new perspective of who God was. It seemed so clear after to me that it was about God not me. He is worthy of our praise and worship because of who he is! It's not that God doesn't want to use and bless us, it comes down to what our view of God is. Do we have a small view of God and a big view of self? Or do we have a big view of God and a small and humble view of self?

After bible college I attended Lakeland College in Vermilion Alberta. I took the Ranch and Feedlot Rider Program which was a practical hands on program that really helped me get the basics of horse and stockman ship developed. It was there I found a passion for training horses and developed a wanting to be a good stockman.

After the one-year program I contacted Peter Gonnet, (who was someone I had briefly gotten to know and had great respect for) and I asked if I could do my practicum under him at his pasture which he kindly accepted. On a side note at Lakeland college I'd seen in the hallway a clip from a magazine posted about a group of Cowboys from the Hanley area that put on a free clinic as an opportunity to share their faith in Christ and as an outreach to unbelievers. I remember thinking that was the coolest thing in the world and thought how neat it would be to get to know some of those guys!

So, like I was saying I did my practicum under Peter (who was one of the Cowboys in the magazine). I had an amazing time that month and learned so much. It was one of the fastest months of my life and I was sad when it was over. Through this time, I also lived with the other pasture rider Rick Wiebe who I also discovered shortly after was a follower of Christ! It was an amazing time learning from these guys more about horsemanship and better my roping skills but I was even more excited to be around brothers in Christ!

From there Peter helped me land a job with Dale Clearwater who only lived a few miles from the pasture. I was super excited as I had heard lots about Dale and also being one of the cowboys from the magazine article. I was very blessed to be able to work under Dale for about three years and owe a vast amount of my horsemanship to him. During these years I was introduced to the sport of reined cow horse and was very fortunate to be able to show some exceptionally talented horses and travel around Canada and the US showing cow horses.

However, it was through these years that I began to get lazy in my battle against sin in more ways than one. Through showing horses, I began to once again to inflate my view of myself and became concerned about my success and my name and wanting to build that name for myself. I also dabbled in the party atmosphere and started compromising in ways I hadn't before. Through this time God used my struggles and failures to really awaken in me a real hatred for sin which I am thankful for. Ephesians 4:20 "And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption"

I started to have more of an understanding of repentance and the need to live in a lifestyle of repentance and dependency upon the finished work of Christ. This attitude should characterize every believer's life. I think I always looked at certain people and thought that once you reach a certain age or reach that level of "spiritual maturity" this battle of sin would subside and you would no longer have to deal with these things that I was dealing with. But God has showed me that it is a hard-fought battle that we have to be fighting against sin every day. The Apostle Paul in Roman 7 says "I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing that I hate." And after explaining his battle with his flesh and sin he goes on to say at the end of the chapter, "Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!" Even the Apostle Paul struggled with doing things he didn't want to do but recognized the answer is and can only ever be found in Jesus Christ and trusting in him! And yet we still have to put to death the sin in our lives and have that responsibility. Romans 8:13 says "For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the spirit you put to death the deeds of the body you will live"

Of course, by doing this it will never earn us favour before God. This is talking to believers who are already in Christ and seem as "perfect" and "blameless" before God because of what Christ did on our behalf on the cross taking all our sin and guilt upon himself. It can never be anything we do that will help with our standing before God. The point is if we are in Christ and profess to have his spirit this is our longing to be putting to death the sin around us.

It seems that the more I live my life the more I can echo those same words of Paul. I am constantly reminded of how weak I am and I long for the day I will be with him and rid of this sin that still lingers in all of us.

## REPORT

## FROM JOHN FITZHERBERT

## Hi Folks.

Since the last magazine we have had a continuation of dry weather right up till near the end of September when we got a few small rains. October brought us a real blizzard for a day. It is hard to say how much snow came because there was such a strong wind. Some places had a foot of snow and some places had none. It sure was welcome moisture, just the wrong color! We are really blessed in this country compared to what is going on south of us, such devastation from the hurricanes. I can't image water right up to the roof tops. High River had four to six feet of water in 2013, but that is nothing compared to what those people have had. Then there are the fires that burnt most of the summer in BC and came into a small part of Alberta. What devastation to have a place with everything in it suddenly gone. I am sure this will impact the wildlife for a long time to come. All these things show us how helpless we are when fire, wind and water are out of control. These are the things that God made for out benefit, just think without fire we would freeze, we could not cook our food, we would not exist. I think God created wind to move the air around so that we have clean air to breath. I don't say anything about water, without it there would be nothing. We read in Ex 14 that the children of Israel are on their journey to the promised land and the Egyptians are pursuing them to bring them back to be slaves. God put a cloud and fire between them so the Egyptians could not get to the Israelites. Next, He sent a strong east wind to part the sea and the people crossed over on dry land and the water was like a wall on the right and on the left. This continued for at least all night so the millions of people along with the livestock and all that they had could get through the sea. In the morning the army chased after the people but God caused confusion and trouble with the chariot wheels so the Egyptians decided to turn back because they knew the Lord was fighting for Israel. God caused the sea to come back and drowned the entire army of horses and all. Here we see the three things that God made in action. He used fire to keep the enemy from His people, then used wind to part the sea and finally water to drown those who were in opposition to Him. This story shows us how God has control of these three elements and how man has no control over them on his own power, only when we call upon the Lord does he control these things.

A few years ago, we were doing a service in the Galt park in Lethbridge. We were in a big gazebo and the wind was coming in there about one-hundred miles an hour. It was impossible to do anything, so we joined hands and prayed asking the Lord to take the wind away. It was amazing, the wind stopped totally

for three hours while we sang and shared the word with about two-hundred Hutterite people. A hundred yards away the wind was still howling. I could see the trees leaning and swaying so I knew it was still blowing out there. That was a miracle how God controlled that wind when we prayed.

Another time there was a very strong south west wind, a man was trying to thaw out a frozen pipe from a spring with a propane torch. The grass caught on fire and was gone across the highway and went a mile in six minutes. Someone called me and three of us drove about fifteen miles to fight the fire. When we got there, it was about a mile square, and with that wind it was impossible to do anything to control it. We sat in the truck and asked the Lord to help us with the fire. To my surprise in a while the wind went down and then a strong wind came from the north east and blew the fire back into its self. Water trucks were able to get there then and the fire was put out. Praise The lord. These are examples of how God will act when we pray.

Summer has been real busy again going to rodeos. We have been able to minister to different rodeo associations. We had several services at the Canadian Professional Rodeo Association, Foothills Rodeo Association, Chinook Rodeo Association, Bordertown Rodeo Association, Canadian Senior Pro Rodeo Association, Canadian Girls Rodeo Association, Alberta Armature Rodeo Association and a few team roping's. On behalf of the Alberta Fellowship of Christian Cowboys I want to thank all these rodeo Committees for making a time and a space available for us to have cowboy Church at their events. Thank you and God Bless You

Canadian Finals Rodeo is still going on in Edmonton in the same arena as before so we will be holding Cowboy church in the Expo Center at 10:00 am on Sunday Nov 12th. Hope to see a bunch of you there.

### **God's Blessing**

John FitzHerbert



Cowboy Church at Ranchmans, AB

## JJ Fellowship of Christian Cowboys JJ Team Roping School and Jackpot

## HOSTED BY THE MCCARROLL FAMILY AT ANCHOR J RANCH

Another Team Roping Camp is in the books. I believe this was the 24th annual FCC Jackpot hosted by the McCarroll family. I (Brett) know this because I competed at the first one we hosted when I was 8 years old riding a paint head horse named Scooter. God has certainly been faithful (as he tends to be!) to the ministry at Anchor J Ranch as we go forth on the mission that He sets before us to love God and others by being a witness to the goodness of God and His salvation.

There were 50 students registered this year ranging from age 5-65. The landscape is beginning to change around Anchor J Ranch as the instructors, Cody, Justin, and Brett, seem to be spending an increasing amount of time trying to keep track of their own kids. A huge thank-you goes out to the many volunteers who helped with child care, food preparation, running chutes, sorting cattle, timing and so on. Without the help, this event could not be possible. The school and jackpot ran off without a hitch and a lot of fun was had and I'm sure that some learning took place as well.

There are a couple major highlights every year from the camp and they are the "Rope-With-a-Pro Jackpot" and the "Little Red Dummy Jackpot." In the "Rope-With-a-Pro Jackpot," students registered in the school are able to compete with one of Justin, Cody, or Brett McCarroll and Matt Fawcett helped this year as well. The pro's volunteer their time and skills while the students compete against each other. This year, Lane Gross came out on top with the help of Cody McCarroll.

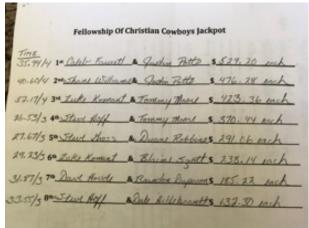
The "Little Red Dummy Roping" certainly did not disappoint. We have a homemade dummy that you rope on foot with a unique hopping action that has confused and frustrated heelers for about 2 and ½ decades now. The younger students aged 15 and under throw in their loonies and compete in a gigantic round robin jackpot. There were 50 teams in total and when the dust settled, Caleb Fawcett (age 9) and Coy McCarroll (age 5) came out on top. They won \$24 each and Coy won the highpoint hat as he finished 3rd in the jackpot as well. He has not taken the hat off yet which is going on about 9 days now.

The "Heel-O-Matic Jackpot" winners were Caleb Fawcett and Rylan Thue (age 8). These youngsters out-caught everyone. Our top girl ropers for the weekend were Charlie Edge and Hannah Thue. The most improved went to Katie Shuk.

To conclude the camp, we always finish with the FCC #10 draw pot. Young header Caleb Fawcett (age 9) roped outstanding and won the roping with partner Justin Potts. It is always great to see young ropers do well and it's especially cool to see ropers that participate in the weekend camp do well at the roping. A full list of results and pictures of the winners are below.







#### "The Gospel: Easy to Understand but Hard to Live Out"

Justin McCarroll and Brett McCarroll were the speakers for the weekend. The main goal was to help people try to understand better what Christianity is. In a world and culture where ideas abound and there are platforms for anyone to share anything, the basic Gospel message has become very confused in the minds of many, including Christians. Thus, our goal was to try to speak some sense into the topic and help a bunch of cowboy people to break down any misconceptions they may have had about who God is, what He has done, and what a Christian's job is on this earth.

To begin, Christians have done an incredibly poor job of representing Christ accurately. Yes, we live in a fallen world and yes, all people are sinful beings. However, this does not answer the question of why Christians have done such a poor job of reflecting Christ to a dark world. I believe that the reason for this is the fact that Christianity, in many cases, has become something that Christ never intended for it to be. There are Christians and specific local churches under the umbrella of "christianity" that take some horrendous approaches to identifying what Christianity is and who God is. There are many reasons for this

#### CHRISTIAN COWBOYS

de-railing of Christianity but the main reason is either a blatant misunderstanding of the Gospel or a healthy understanding of the Gospel coupled with a complete rejection to live out any of its claims. To proceed further, we need to define the Gospel. The Gospel can be broken down into a few simple points that are not difficult to understand but are a struggle to live out. First, God created all things. We are all created beings that somehow reflect the image of God (Genesis 1:26-27). Second, God loves all creation which includes every single person He has ever created. Yes, that includes you. Third, Jesus really was who He said He was; the Son of God who really lived, died on a cross, and was resurrected from the dead to conquer sin and death forever. Fourth, Jesus outlined an entirely different way for His followers to live and gave them specific instructions on their purpose and job in life. This "way" is sometimes referred to as "the Jesus way" or simply "the way" as the first churches labeled themselves a little less than 2000 years ago. These 4 points need some more unpacking.

If (1) all humans are created in the image of God and (2) God loves all people, then how ought we to treat all other "image bearers" of God? Yes, you nailed it! With love and respect of course! The problem is, we do not see this happening at the forefront of Christianity. Christians are generally pre-occupied with being "right" or staying away from "those people" or not doing "those bad things." The problem is, the Gospel both enables and requires followers of Christ to represent Christ well. The only folks Jesus went around condemning were those religious leaders who thought they had everything right. As humans, we are not the judge. Our job, like Christ, is to have compassion for sinners and seek to help them to realize the salvation of Christ for this life and the next. In short, a Christian who adheres to the Gospel must always love the other and treat them with respect, no matter the

There sure are a lot of ways that Christianity can get off track. A good test to decipher whether or not you understand the Gospel well and live it out is to ask yourself the question "is my life characterized first and foremost by a love for God and others?" Take a moment to honestly reflect on that question. Now that you have swallowed your pride, what exactly are you living for? Many christians get de-railed and off track by focusing on doctrines from the Bible that are not essential to the Gospel. This plays out in our picking and choosing from God's Word what we like and what fits our life. Thus, we create a Gospel that is "me focused" where I am always right, I am in control, and I know all truth. Last time I checked, the Gospel is all about God and what He accomplished. So, any doctrine that diverts from the simple love God and others approach is not one we should base our lives upon. For example, some christians believe that God intends for them to be rich, healthy, and happy all the time and they make this the basis for the Gospel. Call me crazy, but this sure seems to me to be a Gospel that is very selfish in nature as it is all about "me." And, life happens. We face real struggles. This is simply a normal art of our existence. A faith that upholds a God that is all sunshine and rainbows will crumble at the first sign of struggle.

If (3) Jesus really is who He said He is, and really did what the Bible says He did, then the Gospel is about Christ. Only a fool would argue that the Gospel, upheld by the actions and teachings of Christ, is anything other than prioritizing loving God and others through a lifelong journey of learning to let go of our selfish desires and serve God and others in this world. Any "gospel" that does not coincide with this main principle is not the Gospel at all. Such a person that believes in a Gospel that is focused on their self has simply gone off track. Why would anyone ever go off track?

Because living out the Gospel is hard.

(4) Jesus outlined a very different way for His followers to live. He taught ideas such as equality, enemy love, unity of all people of all races, joy in suffering, letting go of the things of this world for our benefit and the benefit of others, and learning about what the Jesus way and Kingdom look like on earth as well as in heaven. Wow, that's a tough list. It is much easier to prescribe to the Jesus that is "for me" and gives me everything I want in the way that I want it to happen. The problem is, that is not at all what Jesus taught! Yes, Jesus loves us but the way that plays out for us on earth is simply not in our getting what we want all the time. Just imagine what the world would look like if the Church began to obey the main teachings of Christ above all else? We could finally put aside all the slander, judgment, and hatred and move on towards something better. I love the Church and I feel that the local Church is vitally important. The thing is, though, as individual Christians we must learn and continue to re-visit what the Gospel is and take part in the struggle of living it out. In conclusion, God is good and He is not changing. If you feel like your life has gotten off course and is characterized by judgments or standing against this or that, I would strongly encourage you to simplify your understanding of the Gospel. Learn to be a Christian that stands for things rather than a person who plays judge all the time and stands against. There is enough work to be done in the areas of learning to love God better and actually loving others and placing their needs above our own that we need not get off track down rabbit trails. Remember, evaluate your understanding of the Gospel and weigh it against the four simple points mentioned above. I hope that it will set you free to know God better and be able to participate in His mission of individuals becoming more like Christ so as to be a witness to the goodness of God and His salvation offered to all people in the world.

Brett McCarroll



Cowboy Church at McCarrols



Cowboy Church at McCarrols

# The Benefits of Giving thank God for the Gift of Power He has given us.

by John FitzHerbert

Last time I wrote about the love that God has put into animals and birds for their young. I gave you Webster's definition of love. This time I will give you one I learned from a Bible teacher many years ago: "To do the utmost for the other persons benefit." I think that is what the Word is saying in Eph 5:25, "Husbands love your wives just as Christ loved the church and gave Himself for her." V28. So, husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself. For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord does the church.

I guess the question is: 'How do we do that?' I know a couple who had a small business in town. I stopped there one morning for something, as I went through the door I could tell something was wrong. He told me they were short \$20,000 and had no money to carry on the business. He turned to his wife and said "You do the banking and you keep the books so it's your fault. Now find it!" He went out and slammed the door. I thought there is an example of not showing love to your wife as Christ told us to do. He should have put his anger aside and sat down to help her.

My wife and I often talk about things that have to be done. Maybe something with our family or some other person that we are involved with. She will ask me "What do you think we should do?" She is asking me to make a decision. It would be easy for me to say, "I don't know what to do. You think what we should do." That is putting the burden back on her and not showing love as I should do, so I will make a decision. Then we talk further and come up with the answer. This applies to most things, not to "What color should I paint the bathroom, or did you like the pattern on the table cloth where we had supper last night?"

How does God love us? Eph 2:1 - Tells us we were dead in trespasses and sins, walking or living according to the prince of the power of the air "that is Satan" whose spirit is now working in the sons of disobedience. We too all formerly lived in the lust of our flesh, indulging the desires of the flesh and the mind. We were children of wrath, corrupt and evil. But God being rich in mercy because of his great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our transgressions made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved and raised us up with Him and seated us with Him in the Heavenly places, in Jesus Christ. What a wonderful thing God did. We were living in sin doing what immoral things our flesh would lead us to do, helped to do them by the Devil all in disobedience to God. But he loved us so much that He let his own Son die so that we could be forgiven and now we have a home in Heaven seated with Christ. What an honor. Only

God's love could do that.

Well that takes care of us. We know we have a home in heaven, but what about now in our everyday lives: 3 John:2 tells us "Beloved I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health just as your soul prospers." John 10:10 - "The thief does not come except to steal and kill and to destroy. But I have come that they may have life and that they have it more abundantly." If we read ancient history we will find that that two or three hundred years ago it was considered wrong for Christians to have much money or many possessions. This meant that they loved money more than they loved God. Also in those days people could not own or read a Bible, that was only for the Priests and other religious leaders. Those people were supposed to tell the common people what the Bible said concerning them. They told the people it was wrong to have money, and should give it to the church. Consequently, these organizations became very wealthy and the people were very poor. I don't think it is wrong for us to have money and possessions. I believe a good example of this is Abraham. God made him very rich, even when he went to Egypt and told a half lie about his wife, God still blessed him with sheep, oxen, donkeys, camels, male and female servants. Abraham left Egypt much richer then when he went in. We are told that Abraham was very rich in livestock, silver and gold. He still called on the name of the Lord. God loves us so much that he causes us to prosper and be in health.

I think of that chorus 'Look what the Lord has done." He saved us, has given us comfortable places to live in, we always have lots of good food and He has healed us of our diseases.

Thank the Lord for His Great Love!!

#### More next time John FitzHerbert



Cowboy Church at Gimlet. AB

We need to examine ourselves as the book of 1 John does and ask the hard questions. Do I love my sin? Do I truly love God and desire to be like him and rid of my sin? 1 John 1:6 says "If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness we lie and do not practice the truth." I met the love of my life Tonielle Wall in the summer of 2013. She was the women I had been praying for. She had a heart for Jesus and wanted to live for him above all else. We were married the next summer and purchased some land right in that same area next to so many good friends and fellow believers! We established JT Ranch Ltd and we continue to train horses here and run a cow calf operation. Since being married in 2014 God has blessed us with two beautiful daughters Kamryn and Emrie. And praise God one more coming this spring! For now, God has called me to stay home and invest in my main ministry of my family and has changed my desires to put on hold going on the road and showing cow horses. If God calls me back to the show road some day that would be awesome, if not, I am equally excited. Right now, I long to invest every chance I can into my wife and kids and point them to Christ. That is what I feel is my calling now. I am eternally grateful how God drew me to himself and brought me into this community with so many believers and we can now raise our family around like-minded people.

Whatever the future holds I know my king is in control and is seated upon his throne in Heaven just as John seen in Rev 4! I will continue to trust in his saving name!

#### God Bless!!

#### Jesse Remple



Cowboy Church at Gimlet. AB

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT **GREETINGS** FROM MANITOBA

#### TERRY BAKER

Well that time of year is upon us again, where there are more leaves on the ground than on the trees, harvest is coming to an end, the cows are returning to their winter home while their calves go to market and PTL the bale yard is full!! Summer seems to go by so quickly. We've had a good summer of ministry, ministering at several rodeo's. The MRCA Finals are just around the corner in conjunction with Manitoba AG EX. Once again, we will have our booth set up. Please join us for a church service on Sunday the 28th. If you're in the area, drop around and say hi.... we always enjoy your fellowship. With fall also comes the Canadian Board meeting.... please continue to pray for these board members as there are always decisions needing to be made that ultimately effect this organization.

Ps. 37:3 says, "Trust in the Lord, and do good. Dwell in the Land and feed on God's faithfulness." This is something that we should be doing all the time, but this is not the case as we are entrusting our fate, more and more on the things of the world than on the Lord.

Everything now seems to be about safety; many works places, now require daily safety meetings and building sites need to be Worksafe approved and Manitoba kids are required to be in some kind of car seat until they're 80 lbs. I think this is ridiculous. Ps. 20:7, "Some trust in chariots and some in horses. But we will remember the name of the Lord," meaning we will trust the Lord our God. Our chariots now are our cars which are so full of air bags and other safety elements. If you crash you will be in bubble wrap!!!! All the safety stuff on pick ups are now the selling point, where we once were happy if it had air conditioner. Ps. 33:17, "A horse (or car) is a vain hope for safety. Neither shall it deliver any by it's great strength."

If you want all this safety stuff that's ok, but we need to remember it's the Lord that gives us the protection we need and only when we trust in Him, do we have it. We need to be praying to the Lord and crying out to Him to keep us and our family safe, not depending on a cab full of bubble wrap.

continued Page 8



## GREETINGS FROM MANITOBA

#### CONTINUED...

The Lord is our shield and protector as it states in Ps. 33:20, "Our soul waits for the Lord, He is our help and shield," and Eph. 6:16, "Above all, taking the shield of faith." God's word saying, "above all", means more than absolutely anything thing else you do, "take the shield of faith". Too often we begin to pray after something has come against us instead of praying to keep bad stuff away. Ps. 3:3, "But you, O Lord are a shield for me. My glory and the one who lifts up my head." VS: 4, "I cried to the Lord with my voice and He heard me form His holy hill." Ps 5:11-12, "But let those rejoice who put their trust in you. Let them ever shout for joy because you defend them. Let those also love Your name. Be joyful in You for You O Lord will bless the righteous with favor. You will surround them as with a shield." Ps. 91:4, "God's truth (His word) shall be your shield and buckler."

Find what you need in God's word and pray that over your family, shields and bucklers are not tools for healing, but are used for protection. Ps. 91, is a psalm of protection.... so, pray that over your family. I have been praying this psalm over my family ever since I discovered the power of protection found within it. I really feel empowered when reading vs. 9-10, "Because you have made the Lord who is my refuge, even the most high, your dwelling place. No evil shall befall you, nor shall any diseases come into your home,"

Think of it this way; you're a bull rider and went to a rodeo, but when you got there they told you the bull fighter didn't show up .... would you still get on the bull? The bull fighter is the bull rider's shield; he's the one that helps you when you're in trouble...the one that takes the hit for you. I have even seen bull fighters lay over a bull rider when he is down. Bull fighters are the life saver between the bull and the rider...so much so that the bull riders get to pick who they want as the bull fighters at the finals and you can be sure it will be the ones who best shield them against the bulls.

My question here is ......why doesn't the church? Ps. 147:10-11, "God does not delight in the strength of a horse (the way of the world). He takes no pleasure in the legs of a man (what you can do on your own). The Lord takes pleasure in those who fear Him, in those who hope in His mercy."

So, let the Lord be your shield, trust in what He can do for you and your family.

Blessed are those who trust in the Lord, Terry Baker

## GREETINGS FROM SASKATCHWAN FCC



Blessings to all in Christ. We are thankful here in Saskatchewan for the summer we have had. Several members were able to do church services at a few rodeos this year. We are praying that God will bless the fruits of the labours by drawing people unto himself for His glory.

Former Saskatchewan president, Joel Hamm, has been a steady witness these last few years across the provinces rodeo scene. What a blessing he and Carla have been as they take their growing family (6 kids) on the road to be salt and light to a dying world. They've been encouraged this summer as the Lord has opened opportunities to share the gospel and softened hearts around them. We continue to pray and ask that others would too, for God to bless their work.

Our weekend retreat at Rafter V Ranch was a hit this year. Thanks to the Vermette family for opening up their place to a bunch of people. The kids had a blast, as there was a lot of them, games, gymkhana events, some roping and a lot of relaxing, sitting around visiting. Big thanks to Katie Haaland for heading up the meals. A thank you goes out to Pastor Brad. We as a board had asked him to preach on the Supremacy of Christ and how that is lived out in our lives. Sometimes we as Christians forget Jesus is Lord and all that that means. As people who have been bought with a price far greater than anything we can imagine, our lives are not our own. Once we were slaves of unrighteousness but now are under new management, slaves of righteousness. Therefore, we should live as such, fully submitted, yielding every area, marriage, family, work, our desires, to the Lordship of Christ.

The next big thing on our agenda is Agribition. We look forward to that as it is such a great opportunity for sharing the gospel. Please be in prayer that God would bless the time we have there and draw the lost unto Himself. Pray that we would be bold in sharing with people the gospel. Pray that FCC members would be willing too and have a heart too work the booth. Most importantly pray that God would be pleased and that the name of Jesus would be honoured. He didn't have to come to save us. He doesn't need us. He simply showed mercy to us sinners because He is kind. Ephesians 1:5-6 talks about saving us "...according to the kind intention of His will, to the praise of the glory of His grace..." He did it so that He may receive praise and glory for the grace He showed us. We want our time at Agribition to be a response to that. Where He does receive glory, honour and praise for all that He has done.

In Christ Brian Hunstad Soli de gloria





## **Chinook Country Corner**

## 2 Corinthians 16 – "For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal."

Twenty some years ago I had taken a charcoal drawing class from a fellow named Rocky Barstad. At the beginning of the first class he said "When you are done this eight-week course I guarantee you will never be able to walk down the produce isle in a grocery store again and look at an orange or an apple without seeing the unique beauty each one has. If after this eight-week course I haven't given you the ability to see and not just look, I have failed at my job."

In the middle of August this year my husband and I had taken an elderly neighbor to Walmart in Okotoks for groceries and then to the Cayley Hutterite Colony to pick up dills for pickling.

When he got in the car with us at home I said, "Well what's new?" He replied, "I have my jars sterilized and my brine in the pot on the stove ready to make dills when I get home. So let's get going." I said, 'Wow, my new brown chicken laid a funny looking speckled egg this morning!"

On the way to Okotoks he said, "It is so dry that I bet the farmers are praying for hail to get this year over and done with." I said, "look at the deer over in that field, all you can see is her head and she is not laying down."

When we arrived at Walmart he was out of the car in a flash, grabbed a cart, rushed into the store and started down the grocery isle. Almost out of breath from this short distance sprint he said, "I hope there is no one here dilly dallying today. I want to get my stuff and get out of Dodge. I hate shopping." We parted and went different directions with our carts. Within minutes we met down the potato chip isle. "You told me that Walmart had vegetable shaped French-fried chips things here. I can't find the bloody things anywhere!" he grumbled. I said, "Ah old guy you just didn't see them." I walked over two feet, pointed to them and said "Ranch, BBQ or Original?" Just then my hand brushed over a nectarine I had in the top part of my cart. I thought, funny how people say "She has skin as lovely as a peach." I would rather have the skin of a nectarine. Peaches are fuzzy and I don't want to have to shave my face!!!!!!

When we arrived at the colony there must have been thirty ladies working in the brick food prep building. I could hear them singing "What A Friend We have In Jesus" in German. As we entered the building they graciously changed their singing to English. I spotted a lady I knew "Sarah" and went over to give her a hug and to visit. My neighbor was right beside me and said, "Come on, we don't have time to flap our gums all day. Hurry up."

I was in such awe when we reached the cooler. It was huge and quite amazing. Boxes and boxes of cucumbers, yellow beans, green beans, cabbages, and cauliflower were pilled five feet high in the air. Plastic gunny sacks of potatoes and five-gallon buckets of Saskatoons lined the whole north wall. Everything was so neat and sparkling clean. I asked the lady named Julie if I could please get two bags of dills, one cauliflower, one cabbage and a bag of yellow beans. Just then a movement caught my eye. My friend was out of the cooler waving both arms in a let's get going motion.

I dawdled my way out of the cooler – watching all of the ladies preparing different kinds of fruits and vegetables. They were now singing "The Old Rugged Cross". I stopped with my arms heaped full of cabbage, cauliflower, dills and beans and joined in for a couple verses.

By the time I got outside my friend was standing by the car, had the door open and was tapping his foot in frustration with me. He said, "I thought you were never going to get out of there." Just then two young girls came by – one was pushing a stroller with a little boy in it. The other was pulling a vegetable cart with a little blue-eyed girl in it sitting ever so happy in a white plastic laundry basket. I smiled and waved at them and thought, "How cute is that."

The next day our friend phoned to see how my pickling went. I said, "Great. Our daughter and the grandkids came out and we had such fun making the dills. We got seventeen jars of beautiful dills. He said, "Well I'm disappointed. My dills were all scrawny little things and I only got ten jars. I am not going back to the Colony next year to get my dills."

The Lord wants us to enjoy our life with all the gifts he has provided for us. Our being able to see and enjoy the beauty in everything and not just looking and rushing on is a precious gift. Take the time to look for the beauty in everything. It is always there. Enjoy the little things and your life will become full of smiles and you will naturally pass that feeling onto everyone you meet and make their day better as well

Hebrews 13:5 "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you." When we see and not just look you can see the goodness of the Lord everywhere.



## **A Cowboys Psalm**

"Oh! Lord! When I got up this morning, my thoughts were on You. Praising You for a good sleep and a bright new day.

Then I stubbed my toe, the pain shot up to behind my ears. You know which toe, Lord!, the one the colt stepped on as I was halter training, when she pulled back, just like I do sometimes. When she hit the end of the rope, she jumped ahead to get free of the pressure. She learns quicker than I do, that's when she landed on my toe.

My heart wasn't very thankfull at the breakfast table and I was still whining. The eggs were burnt when the wife ran to the bathroom to throw up. Lord I wasn't even thankful for that new child of ours that she is carrying.

Then Sammy crawls up into my lap and licks my face, "That's the way Puppy kisses me. I love you, Daddy!" he says. I hug him close and lay my face down on his blonde hair to hide my tears. It was then, Lord, I noticed your love shining through the window and making rainbows on the kitchen table, and I knew the fog outside had lifted and the one in my heart as well.

Then I put Sammy down and he danced with Puppy around his Mom, standing with a grin on her face, "Sorry" she said, as I wrapped an arm around her and dropped fresh eggs in the pan.

"Dear Lord!" I prayed as we sat down to eat, "Thanks for the morning and all that it brings For this new baby, and Sammy and all good things And for that fine colt that I'm trying to train For the cattle out on grass, the sunshine and rain

Lord! keep my heart and ears open, so I can hear your

For you are our helper, when we make You our choice Thank you for salvation, that comes through your Son Now thanks for the strength, to get this days work done."

Harold L Webber Mar6 2002

## **Upcoming Events**

#### **ALBERTA COWBOY CHURCH**

Teepee Creek Hall 2nd Sunday of the month – 10:30 am Barb and Kevin Quist 780 568 3510

#### **COMMUNITY COWBOY CHURCH**

Niton Junction Hall Every Tuesday – 7:00 pm Ron Deleeuw 780 728 9088

## MIGHTY PEACE COWBOY CHURCH

Eureka Hall 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the Month – 7:00 pm Ginger Patton 780 834 6551 Blue Hale 780 494 2062

#### **VIKING AUCTION MART**

Viking, AB Last Friday of Each Month –7:30 pm Terry Leslie 780 376 3599

#### **SUNRISE PLACE**

High River, AB 4th Sunday of Each Month 1:00 PM Contact John FitzHerbert 403 652 1377

We are currently in search of books to hand out at rodeos and events that have content in regards to the Cowboy and Christianity. The books we are currently using are published in the US. The cost of shipping them to Canada is now unaffordable. If you know of any that many help us please contact: oldwomanabu@gamil.com



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## Without God Our week would be:

Sin day
Mourn day
Tears day
Waste day
Thirst day
Fight day
Shatter day

Days without God makes one weak

