

Fellowship of Christian Cowboys

October 2024

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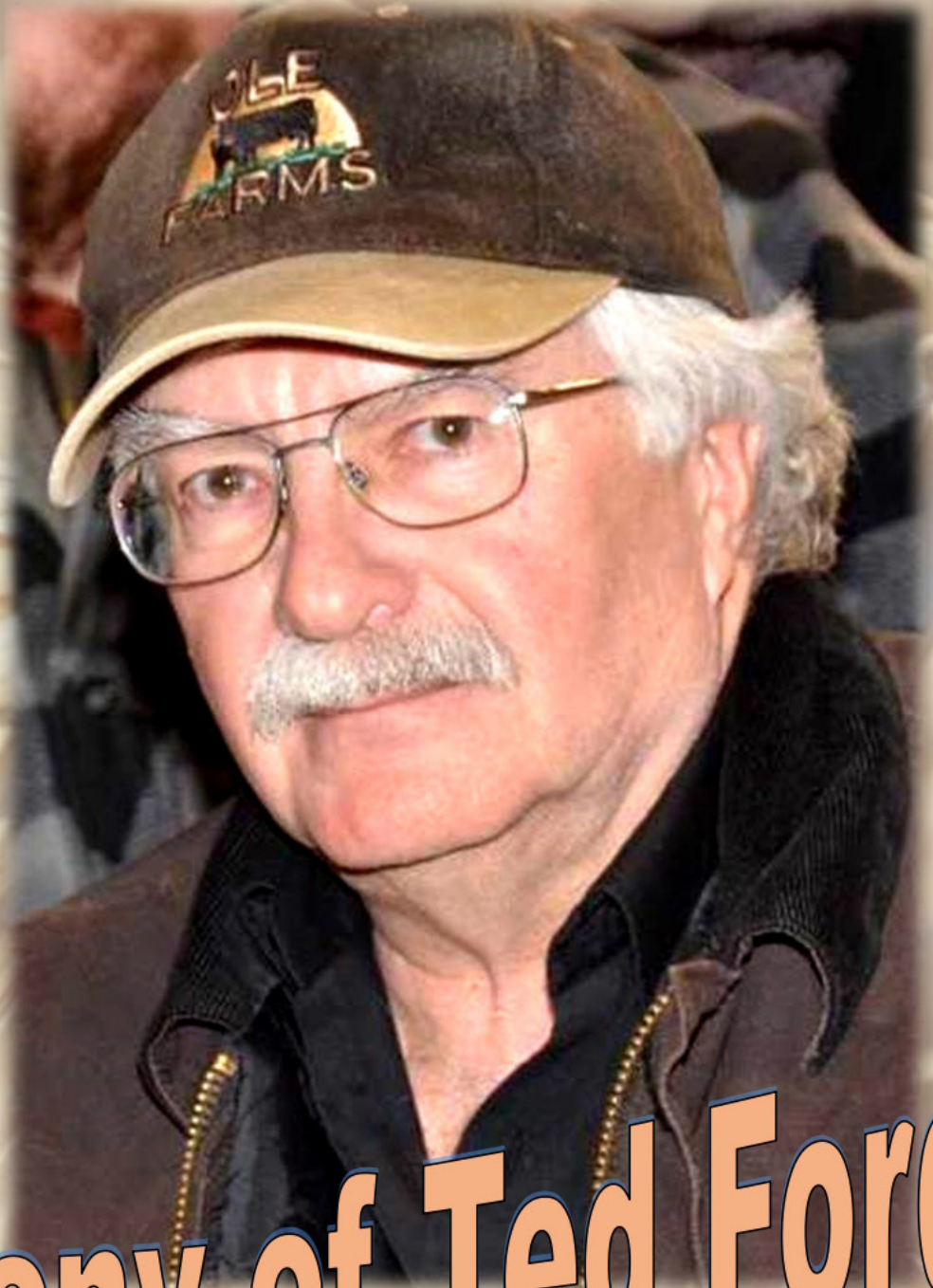
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Testimony of Ted Ford

“Carrying the Message of Christ to the Cowboy World”

Fellowship of Christian Cowboys

“Carrying the Message of Christ to the Cowboy World”

A New Heaven and a New Earth

Revelation 21:1-7

¹ And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.

² And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

³ And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.

⁴ And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.

⁵ And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful.

⁶ And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely.

⁷ He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.

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Layout and printing: Highwood Printing High River, AB

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TESTIMONY OF TED FORD

My Faith Journey was Rocky and Bumpy

I was born on my uncle's ranch in eastern Alberta in early May. A huge snowstorm in late April with high winds really piled up the snow wherever there was a barrier. The melting snow flooded the roads making any trip to the hospital impossible. Dad was out riding trying to find where the cows had drifted to. A younger uncle rode to bring a nurse back by horseback (I think) for the delivery. I was the first of ten children with fourteen years between me and my youngest brother. The birth was difficult (I was early) and hard for my mom but I had a nice bed in a dresser drawer. There was no power or running water on the ranch. That came much later.

I still have a scroll from Sunday School with six consecutive years of perfect attendance. That probably instilled in me enough information that finally led me to be born again many years later. I was baptized at about eight and attended Sunday School until I was eighteen. I refused to be confirmed into the church which hurt my mother quite a bit. I hardly went to church again until I was 35. Despite reading my first Bible which I still have and going to Sunday School and church I was a terrible sinner in my teens. I hurt people that I loved and who loved me with my bad behavior and attitude. I was selfish and did what I wanted to do.

While I was in high school, I would skip school and work as a ringman at the auction mart. The owner/auctioneer was a born-again Christian. He would talk to me a little. It didn't seem to make much difference, but maybe it was adding to a faith bank that yielded dividends many years later.



I went to work on a guest ranch bordering the Jasper National Park boundary after graduating from Grade 12. I took out trail rides and put shoes on horses surprisingly most of them stayed on. I broke horses and packed horses. The job didn't pay much but I sure enjoyed it. It was a beautiful country and I did appreciate it as God's creation. I took part in a documentary about hunting while on the ranch. Garnet Anthony was a TV news personality in Edmonton and was the person documenting the different methods of hunting. I was to pack a horse with panniers

and, a tent and throw the diamond hitch while it was being described by the commentator to Mr. Anthony. I was told to pack slowly so the full commentary could be made. When it was finished, I mounted my horse and led off the pack horse with Mr. Anthony following on another horse. Fortunately, we turned a corner in the trees and were out of sight of the camera when the pack fell off. You can't pack in slow motion.

I attended college after that and rodeoed at the collegiate level and Foothills Cowboy Association-sanctioned rodeos for a few years. I wasn't very good but did try. People would have been confused about me being a Christian because of drinking but I was starting to straighten out.

After getting married and having children I thought I should introduce them to faith. My mother and father attended church regularly. Mom was a lay minister and did pulpit supply. Dad sang in the choir and was on the church board. Even when visiting them which was quite often, I didn't go to church with them, and neither did my children. As mentioned earlier, when I was thirty-five, we started attending church with my three daughters in Sunday School. I got quite involved with the church and doing the "work" on committees and boards within the church. People thought I was a Christian because I went to church and was active in it. I talked about faith. I had lots of books on the Bible and faith and read them. I still have them. I was of the Christian faith but I wasn't a Christian. In John 3:3 Jesus told Nicodemus, "Most assuredly, I say unto you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God" (NKJV). I wasn't born again and knew I was vulnerable but I fought it and wouldn't submit for years. I was like the parable of the lost sheep in Luke 15:4-7 and I kept running away. Even so, I thought that I was blessed and had many blessings.

In August 1997 I was home alone in Red Deer when the doorbell rang. It was a Baptist Pastor and Elder. I was Presbyterian. We stood on the front porch and talked. I told them that I struggled and fought against doing what I knew I needed to do for my salvation. They asked if they could pray for me. No pushing. I said yes and we stood there while they prayed for me.



TESTIMONY CON'T

We had a series of books written by Janette Oke, who was from Claresholm, for my daughters. The books were about homestead times and people finding Christ through their struggles. I was reading one a couple of days later. A little girl in the story had a very matter-of-fact statement to her parents about being saved. It hit me hard. I cried. It was right then that I told God I was a sinner in need of salvation, that I believed Jesus was His Son sent to the earth to take my sins to the cross, die, and rise again so that through Him and grace alone I had salvation. I don't remember the exact day but it was in late August 1997. I remember that I first felt great relief and then much joy.

There was and is a very good Christian book store in Red Deer. I continued to get books about the Bible and Christian fiction from the bookstore as time went on. My daughters got books from there, too, attended church, and were active in a youth group that gathered at our house from time to time. Life was good and I was very blessed (and still am).

Over the years I've had some physical injuries. I broke three or four ribs when I was a pre-teen and another one when middle-aged. I got bucked off a yearling bull when I was about ten and hurt my lower back and hip. I had a couple of serious concussions. One from a car accident when I was a teenager and the other from being bucked off a horse in my early twenties. I had a horse go over backward on me hurting my back, hip, and pelvis again when I was eighteen and I lost my right thumb in a farming accident also when I was eighteen. I hurt my back again when bucked off another horse at a rodeo. I've got titanium plates and screws in the left side of my face holding the orbital bone in place and my crushed cheekbone together caused by contact with a cow's horn. I have a little saying copied off the internet saying, "I do all my own stunts but never intentionally".

I mention these things to show I've had a bit of physical pain collected over the years. Many people do and many have had far worse. In 2013 I suffered a personal, emotional, and psychologically crushing trauma and ended up with PTSD. The physical pain I've had collectively didn't compare. It was pain so bad I was sure would kill me and hoped that it would. I was very angry at God. Why me? I blamed him for letting it happen. I quit praying unless my angry thoughts at God count. I quit reading my Bible and, after a while, I quit

going to church. It was a couple of years before I started coming out of it.

I guess I was angry at God because it was easy. I knew internally God didn't cause my pain. We live in the world. We all have free will. In John 16:33 Jesus said, "These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation." (NKJV). In January 2018 I started going to church again, reading my Bible and having an almost daily devotional time.

For years I've had the "Footprints" essay hanging on my wall. Now I can identify with it. Deuteronomy 31:6 says, "He will never leave you or forsake you" (NIV) and repeats in Hebrew 13:5, "For He Himself said, "I will never leave nor forsake you." (NKJV). The Lord did not leave me. I left him. He was carrying me through my trials and tribulations as illustrated in "Footprints".

I am so fortunate that God is a loving God and forgiving God. I know that, "In all things God works for the good of those who love Him." (Romans 8:28, NIV). My faith journey was rocky and bumpy with setbacks. But, I'm closer to God now than ever before. I try to have a daily devotional time early each morning for prayer, devotional readings, and Bible reading. I recognize, more than ever, the multiple blessings I have had showered on me with the greatest one of all being salvation through grace alone by being born again. Through Him, I have peace, joy, and comfort. Thanks be to God.

May the Lord Bless and Keep You and May He Shine His Face upon You

Ted Ford



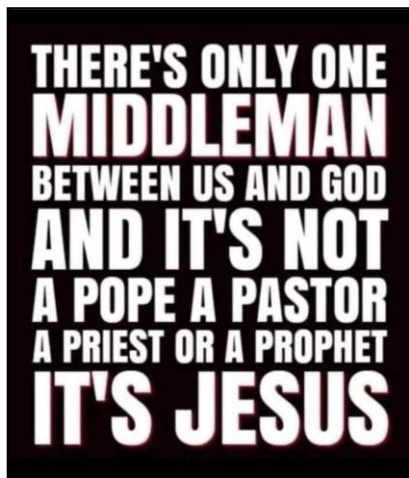
PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It's nearly October as I write this and I wonder where has summer gone? We were on the go with haying, riding, and going down the road for ministry. There is always opportunity for ministry and Donna, and I are so blessed when we are asked to come to share the love of Christ, be it to a returning venue or a new one. It's wonderful to meet with folks who have a heart for the Lord!

This summer, I strongly felt that we needed to encourage each other to not only know Jesus; but to be following Him. This got me pondering. What does that look like in today's world? The apostle Paul was a good example of following Christ. After he met Christ, his life was changed, and he went on to preach of Christ everywhere he went. As you read through Acts, you can see that Paul did a good job of following Christ. How are we doing? Paul was a witness for Christ in a very hostile world. I would say we still live in a world that is very hostile towards Christ. Matt 9:9, talks about a tax collector whom Christ had asked to drop everything and follow Him. He probably was a hated man as I don't imagine folks liked to pay taxes back then any more than we do today.

In today's perspective, it would be like going into the IRS and telling the people who work there to stop and drop everything they were doing, and just follow you. In a similar verse, Mark 8:34, Jesus adds to this, stating that you must also deny yourself, take up your cross, and follow me. Well, that changes things, doesn't it? The emphasis is now on us and what we need to do to truly follow Christ. Once again, Paul leads by example in Rom 1:16, "I am not ashamed of the gospel of Jesus Christ, for it is the power of God to Salvation for everyone who believes." Paul went from persecuting Christians to dying for the church. This shows us the power of a God-encounter! Ponder on this, crosses were for dying on, and dying to self is denying something Christ did willingly for us all.

In chapter 10 of John, Jesus uses sheep to teach us the importance of following Him. Verse 3 tells us, "The sheep hear His voice, and He calls them out, His sheep, by name and leads them out." Did you know that this is still done in Israel today? Shepherds continue to lead their sheep. There is never a need to chase them as they will contently follow their shepherd because they know his voice. Do you know what we do in this country? We use dogs to move and protect our sheep. There are even dog trial competitions and winning one is considered a great accomplishment.



In this country, we spend more time chasing than following, we are constantly running around and chasing after our cows, our kids, and our dreams (to name a few). We don't seem to have the time to enjoy life. Spending time with family and friends or stopping to say hello to your neighbor isn't happening like they used to. Our culture is teaching us that if you need or desire something, you have to chase after it, instead of believing, trusting, and following the one (Jesus) who ultimately has control over everything! In John 10:4, Jesus tells us that, "His sheep will follow Him for they know His voice." In Verse 14 Jesus states, "I am the good shepherd, and I know My sheep and am known by My own."

In cowboy culture, I'm going to use a horse as you can always learn a lot from them. I do enjoy working with my horses, but they are kind of useless if they do not lead or follow. One of the first things a horse needs is the ability to be led.

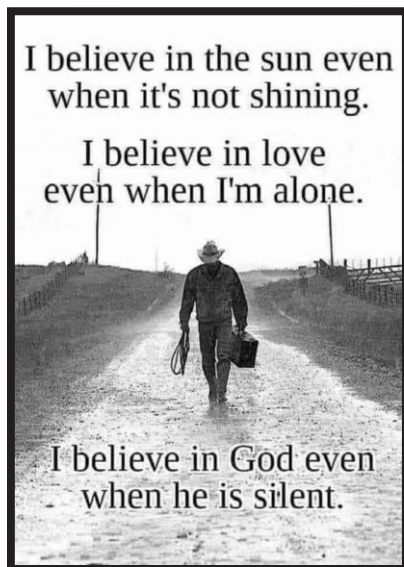
When halter braking colts, you might put the halter and lead rope on and just let the colt drag it around for a while, without putting any pressure on it. We do the same with our kids in Sunday School, teaching them the stories of the Bible without any pressure. But at some point, we need to pick up that rope and put some pressure on it, or they will never learn to follow.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

When I go to get my horse and put the halter on him, I expect that he will be willing to leave the grass he's eating and his buddies to follow me. He has to deny himself and follow me. Think about it, when you leave a horse to himself there are only two things he wants, grass and his buddies. The only way a horse will deny itself is to have a relationship based on trust with its owner. A lot of people will use a round pen to build a relationship with their horse. They will keep running the horse around the outside of the pen until the horse joins them in the center for a rest. Kinda sounds like us. We keep running around in circles until we come to God to rest.

When you have a relationship based on trust it is so much easier to put aside your own needs and wants and commit to following the one you have built the relationship with. Relationships like this don't just happen overnight, you have to spend time getting to know the person you want to build a relationship with. The only way I know to get to know Jesus is by spending time in His word learning the truth, learning to trust, and strengthening your relationship.

I would wonder if you're truly denying yourself if you haven't committed yourself to reading God's word as you're still putting yourself first. Have you ever heard, of "Ride for your Horse"? If you do, it is better for you and your horse just as being in God's word will be better for you! To be a witness for Christ, we have to know him. I have heard it said, "You can't know a man unless you have ridden with him." That ultimately means spending time with him.



Today we can't physically follow Jesus and learn from Him as His disciples did, but we are not left without a helper. John 14:26, "But the advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and remind you of everything I have said to you." Reading God's word not only enables the Holy Spirit to bring the Bible to life but also gives it the power to work in us and through us.

There are so many distractions in the world today that are pulling us away from what's important therefore staying in the Word is the best way I know to stay focused. Having the Holy Spirit in our lives is like having that horse who knows his job no matter what is happening around him. It does take time and a lot of practice to get a horse to this place just like it takes time and commitment to build an everlasting relationship with our Lord and Savior.

I have worked with a lot of horses over the years and one of the greatest joys is seeing that change in the horse when he finally puts his trust in you. It's like that horse will give you his heart and follow you anywhere. I wonder if that's how our Lord feels when we finally surrender our hearts to Him and are willing to follow Him anywhere.

When I rode pasture, it was already a bad day when you came across some busted-up fence because the bulls had gone through. Who wants to fix a broken fence? The young riders would always be looking for a place to tie their horses or would have to hold onto them while trying to fix the fence. Because of the relationship I had built with my horse, all I had to do was remove the bridle and place it on the saddle horn. My horse was never too far away and when I moved along the fence he would follow me, he would never lose sight of me. I believe that a lot of people are in trouble because they have lost sight of Christ.

If you're not fellowshipping, going to church, reading His word you are going to lose sight of Him. These days, I see way too much of that. If you need to reach out for some encouragement, there are folks listed in the Chapter Directory of this magazine that you can call.

Blessed is those who trust in the Lord!
Terry Bake

REPORT

FROM JOHN FITZHERBERT

Hi Folks.

The weather has been a hot topic all across North America this summer, heat records were set in many places, at 120F in some cities in the U.S. To top it off, they had heavy rain and floods in usually dry places. I don't know how they cope with those temperatures; here in High River, we had some days when the thermometer read 35C which converts to about 100F. That was much too hot for me!

As I reported in June, we had about six inches of rain in the spring. Hay crops were fantastic. I can't remember when I have seen so many bales out in the fields and it sure brought the price of hay down. Pastures were lush and a lot got to be two feet high and headed out, that's even with the cattle in pastures. Grain crops looked very good with a lot of lodging however the heat stopped some from filling. People who have been combining tell me that barley and wheat are running out well but the grain is a bit light in weight. Pea crops looked very good and turned out to be great crops. Canola that was seeded early looks pretty good but the later sown seeds have lots of pods that did not fill so I think there will be good and bad harvests of canola.

I must tell you right here we have had about four inches more rain since June, but it sure disappeared quickly. I believe God is still answering our prayer of Zechariah 10:1. Our garden was fabulous with lots of peas, beans, corn, and other vegetables. Praise the Lord for His garden hose.

The summer has been slow for us doing Cowboy

Church at rodeos. We had a pancake breakfast and Cowboy Church at the World Professional Chuck Wagon Association races in High River again. I told the caterer to plan for one hundred and fifty breakfasts but they ran out of food and had to turn some folks away even though they had made some extra plates. There was a good response to the music and preaching with several people staying after to talk and get prayed for. I had asked the Ag Society several months in advance if we could put on a Cowboy Church and they said yes. Then at a meeting of their board just before the races, they said they would do all the advertising for us and they did a great job. Then the secretary of the board asked if they could pay for the breakfast which was \$2000.00. Praise the Lord!

That was a very busy Sunday for the band. At 10 o'clock we were at the rodeo grounds, at 2:00 we were at a senior citizens center, and at 7:00 we ministered at another senior's center. We had time for pizza and watermelon in between. I sure was glad to hit the hay that night after all that singing, and preaching, I was done. Glory be to God.

The town of Coaldale asked us to come and do Cowboy Church in mid-August. They have a beautiful meeting place in one of their town buildings, it's not a huge room, but probably holds about two hundred people. People sat at tables and were served cold lemonade and snacks while we played music and preached. After our performance, everyone was served cinnamon buns. There was an excellent response, lots of people came to talk and some asked for prayer. Special Thanks to Andy McCallum who owns a saddlery there, he brought some saddles and other cowboy attire to make the stage look Western.

REPORT

FROM JOHN FITZHERBERT

Rodeo finals are done and we presented trophy Bibles to some of them. Our first two trophy Bibles went to the Cowboy and Cowgirl of the Year this spring at the Intercollegiate Finals. The first one for the fall was at Rimbey, Alberta for the Cowgirl of the Year in the Canadian Girls Rodeo Association, in September. Next was the Canadian Pro Rodeo Association Finals, the first week in October where Kevin Roland presented four trophy Bibles: Cowboy and Cowgirl of the Year, Miss Rodeo Canada, Cowboy of the Year and the Junior Steer Riding Champion. The next weekend we will be presenting a Bible to the Cowboy of the Year for the Foothills Canadian Association finals rodeo. Looks like a busy time with all these finals so close together this year.

Regina Agribition will be from November 25th to the 30th. Kevin Rowland has a new improved version of the booth and there will be a bunch of us from Alberta and Manitoba going to help man it. We are hoping to get a chapter going in Saskatchewan again. If anyone from Saskatchewan is interested in reviving their chapter please come to the booth and we will help get you started.

I am amazed when I recall some of the things that Our Lord has done. We have traveled thousands of miles to do Cowboy Church, my van had over six hundred thousand miles on it when I gave it away twenty years ago, and other people did the same, I don't know how many small Bibles we have handed out, I would guess approximately a thousand a year.

How many people got saved, how many got baptized in the lakes, rivers, water troughs, and bathtubs? We have helped people when a disaster struck them, through our benevolence fund, and very importantly through our prayers, folks have been miraculously healed. God has done wonderful things over the years. Thank you to the people who gave tithes and offerings which made it all possible and still do today.

All I can say is thank you, but God has a much bigger reward for you when you get to Heaven.

We hope to see some of you at the rodeos and trade fairs this fall.

God's Blessing on you all
John FitzHerbert



John FitzHerbert, Karen Engel, Marvin Engel
Edmonton - Canadian Pro Rodeo Finals 2024

The Benefits of Giving

Last time I wrote mostly about peace because as I said before I don't think you can have joy without peace. I will try to write more about joy this time.

Philip went to Samaria and was preaching in Acts 8:8, *“And the multitudes with one accord were giving attention to what was said by Phillip, as they heard and saw the signs which he was performing. For in the case of many who had unclean spirits, they were coming out of them shouting with a loud voice and many who had been paralyzed and lame were healed. And there was much rejoicing in that city.”*

I have been in meetings where the Spirit came and did just what we read above; people were set free from bondage. Some were born again and some were healed of various ailments, what a wonderful spirit was in the room, there was so much joy. I would like to see this happen every time we have Cowboy Church. Another thing that brought great joy is in 1 Samuel 18:6, *“And it happened as they were coming, when David returned from killing the Philistine, that the women come out of all the cities of Israel, singing and dancing to meet King Saul, with tambourines, with joy and with musical instruments.”*

At that time part of the Israel was under the rule of the Philistines and Israel could not defeat them when they had giants in their army. What joy came when God anointed David to kill the giant and set Israel free and that lasted while David was King. The same joy can come to us when God comes and changes a situation in our lives that we have struggled with for a while, maybe years.

In Luke 15 Jesus tells a story of a woman who lost a coin and searched for it and when she found it, she called her neighbors and friends saying rejoice with me for I have found the lost coin. In the same way, I tell you there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents; joy comes to us when something or someone that was lost is found.

A few years ago, my wife and I were at the Ranchmans Bar in Calgary for Cowboy Church. My wife forgot her Bible there so we asked a friend who was passing by there to go and pick it up in the lost and found, and he called and said it's not there. The next Sunday we were there again and we asked the cleaning lady if she had seen it, she said yes it was on that table and she pointed to the one where my wife had been sitting but she said I didn't touch it. We were there for three more Sundays and each time we looked for the Bible but it was not there.

We have a small table in our kitchen that has the phone on it and that was where my wife's Bible would normally be. While I was having lunch our granddaughter went to use the phone

Always be honest
PROVERBS 12:22

Forgive and forget
MICAH 7:18

Be kind hearted
EPHESIANS 4:32

Keep your promises
ROMANS 4:21

Work hard
COLOSSIANS 3:23

Be thankful
1 THESSALONIANS 5:18

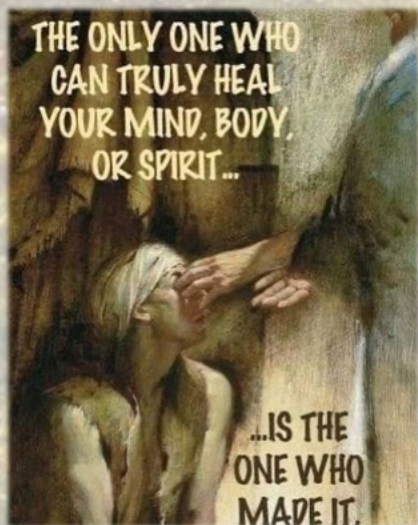
Never give up
PHILIPPIANS 4:13

but most important
Love One Another
1 PETER 1:22

but before she did, she bent down and picked up the lost Bible from the floor. I was so excited I shouted, “Where did you get that.” She looked at me in amazement as she didn’t know the Bible was lost. She said, “On the floor.” We sure had a time of rejoicing and praising the Lord so much that the Bible was back. We must have been visited by an angel. Praise the Lord.

Galatians 5:22 tells us that one of the fruits of the Spirit is Joy. That is what we can produce when we are born again. I admit I don’t always have the joy that I should have. Mark 4:19 gives us the answer to why we don’t have joy all the time and the worries of the world and the deceitfulness of riches and the desire for other things enter in and choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful. It seems to me that we get so busy with our jobs or our occupations or perhaps sports or hobbies that we don’t have time for the Bible or time in prayer then we don’t have the joy that we should have.

When I was preparing to write this article, I made a list of things that bring me joy. Some are spiritual, some are physical, and not in that order either; a good rain in the spring, to see a calf or other newborn stand then know where to find milk, joy that God gave them that ability. A good crop of hay or grain, or a lush pasture. To grow a good garden of vegetables and be able to give a lot away and still have plenty for winter. To see a child take their first steps. A good-looking horse and watch it work. To share the Gospel with someone then lead them in prayer to receive Jesus as Lord and saviour. To hear or see a miracle of healing in someone’s body. To hear a good preacher share on a topic. To hear the testimony of someone how God saved their life healed a marriage or got them out of a financial situation. To drive a nice car or truck and feel its power and comfort. To hear a good country gospel band and play in one, to read the Bible and have a verse come off the page that speaks to me. To build something that looks nice or works well. Have a good gun to shoot gophers, I guess there is more but that’s enough.



**The Lord gave us the greatest gift when he sent his son to live and die for us and to bring peace and joy,.
An angel of the Lord spoke to the shepherds in Luke 10,
“Then the angel said to them Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which will be to all people.”
Thank God for the gift of joy.**

More next time,
John FitzHerbert

Down the Gospel Trail

Jesus said "Go out into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation." Mark 16:15.



Last week we were once again able to present trophy Bibles at the Canadian Finals Rodeo in Edmonton. We were also able to do Cowboy Church on the Sunday.

From November 25 to 30, we will have a booth at Agribition in Regina. If you get a chance drop by and say hello.

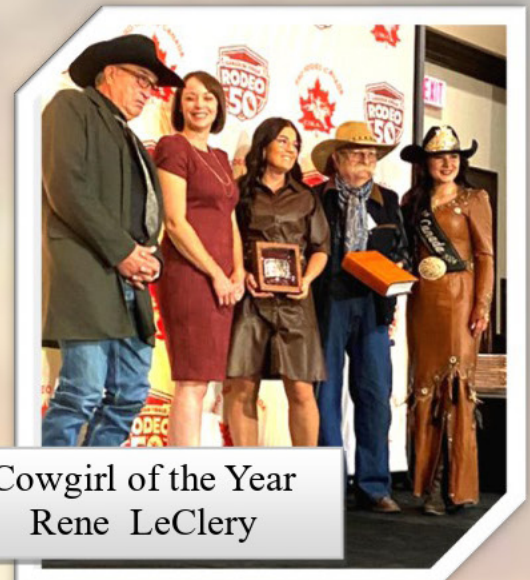
"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me Because He anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind. To set free those who are oppressed, to proclaim the favorable year of the Lord." Luke 48:18-1

We pray that God will anoint us to share the Good News of the Gospel. Thanks for your prayers and support as we reach out.

God Bless,

Kevin Rowland

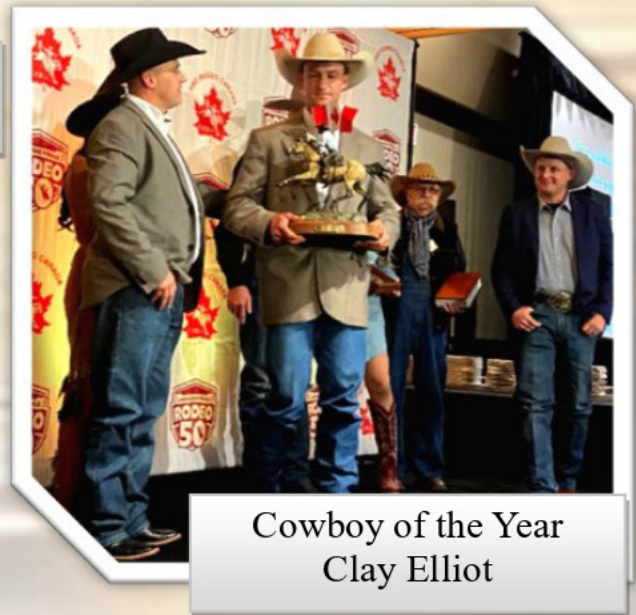
Junior Steer Riding Champion
Brodi Beasley



Cowgirl of the Year
Rene LeClery



Miss Rodeo Canada 2025
Codi Wilson



Cowboy of the Year
Clay Elliot

Alberta Cowboy Church

Tepee Creek Hall

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

Ninton Junction Hall

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

Mighty Peace Church Eureka Hall

1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month – 7:00 pm
Ginger Patton 780 834 6551

Viking Auction Mart Viking

Last Friday of the month 7:00 pm
Pastor Doug Webb 780 897 4241

Holden Cowboy Church 4806 50 St Holden

Second Friday of the month 7:00 pm
Pastor Doug Webb 780 897 4241

Ponderosa City Alder Flats

Every Sunday - Service 10:00 AM
Followed by Fellowship Kevin Rowland 780 388 3088

Seasons

660 7 Street High River
Last Sunday of the month 2:00 pm
John FitzHerbert 403 652 1377

The Medicine Tree Manor,

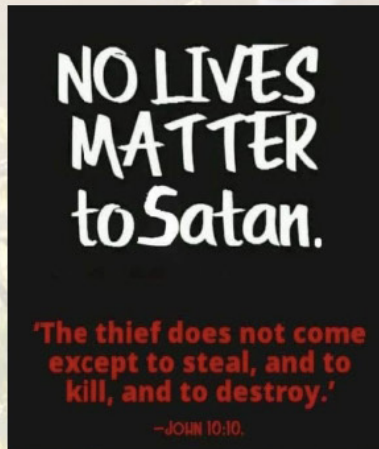
815 – 9 St. SW High River
Last Sunday of the month 7:00 pm
John FitzHerbert 403 652 1377

Saskatchewan Cowboy Church

Diamond C Cowboy Church 208 Sidney St

Maple Creek, Saskatchewan
Every Tuesday Night 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Coffee/Lunch/Fellowship afterwards
Ross Pollock 306 662 0911
<https://www.facebook.com/Diamond-C-Cowboy-Church>

Me, God, and My Guitar



Read your bible pray every day,
pray every day, pray every day.
Read your bible pray every day
and you'll grow, grow, grow.
Neglect your bible forget to pray,
forget to pray, forget to pray.
Neglect your bible forget to pray
and you'll shrink, shrink, shrink.

The above is part of a kid's song that I remember from the past, but oh how true. I am amazed at the number of people who claim Christianity; but have no idea what God's opinion is on today's issues.

I know "love covers a multitude of sins," and I am thankful for that, otherwise my wife would have kicked me out ages ago and my kids would have had nothing to do with me.

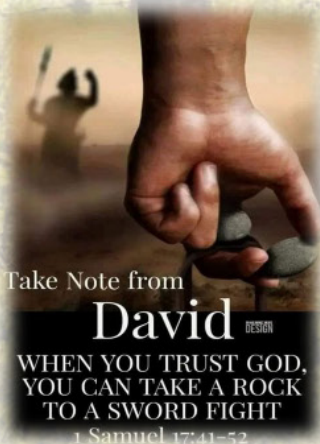
Most importantly, my God would just have zapped me. In fact, He would not have sought me out in the first place.

Love IS wonderful, but unless we know what God's opinion is, we are wandering in the dark. We must know what, in God's opinion is an abomination, and knowing that we must live our lives accordingly, and when the issue arises, we must let others know. I

It is not "love" to allow someone's life to become a trainwreck because we don't know better when we have been given guidance in God's word.

Prayer is also important. In it, we admit our inadequacy, our dependence on God for guidance, and our seeking His favor for us and those around us.

Read your bible, pray every day
and you will grow, grow, grow, grow.



Reflections from an Old Rancher

Preparing for Harvest

Galatians 6:7-10, “Do not be deceived. God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life. Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.”

HARVEST IS A CONSEQUENCE

Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. You cannot sow wild oats and then pray for a crop failure. Matthew 13:8, “But others fell on good ground and yielded a crop: some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.”

HARVEST IS A PROCESS

Galatians 6:9, “Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a Harvest if we do not give up.”

Luke 18:1, “Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up.”

HARVEST IS A SEASON

Ecclesiastes 3:3, “To everything there is a season, A time for every purpose under heaven.”

Jeremiah 5:23-25, “But this people has a defiant and rebellious heart; They have revolted and departed. They do not say in their heart. Let us now fear the Lord our God, Who gives rain, both the former and the latter in its season. He reserves for us the appointed weeks of the harvest.”

HARVEST IS A CONSEQUENCE

HARVEST IS A PROCESS

HARVEST IS A SEASON

How are you doing with your eternal harvest?

Ross Pollock

He loved us Enough to Die for Us – continued from June 2024

If we love, we must be willing to correct others around us, especially our children. Pro 3:11, “My son, despise not the chastening of the LORD; neither be weary of his correction.” You see God’s love includes but is not limited to forgiveness, mercy, grace, judgment, chastisement, punishment, and accountability.

Pro 3:12, “For whom the LORD loveth he correcteth; even as a father the son in whom he delighteth.” Love is not just pie in the sky or a bed of roses but is something that we have to be taught by God and learn in humility to receive it. Love, true love should become the identifying characteristics of all who profess to know and follow Jesus. True God-given love is our source of nourishment.

Learning how to love like that will teach us a much better way to live. His love demonstrated patience and understanding with them but also came with an expectation of growth. 1 John 4:15, “Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him, and he in God.” 1 John 4:16, “And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love, and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God and God in him.” 1 John 4:17, “Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world.” Isn’t the love of God something wonderful? As we grow in God, we experience the truth of His magnificent love not only for ourselves but in His helping us to truly love others.

Now to answer our opening question. The scriptures always have the answers and, in this case, the love that Jesus was teaching them is outlined for us in (1 Cor. 13) He outlines very clearly to them that real God-given pure sincere love must become the motivating factor of their lives. He lets them know that if they don’t use love as the motivation for using their gifts of charisma, eloquence, knowledge, or even faith, they amount to nothing and achieve nothing that is of lasting value. He then goes on to explain or outline how that love looks.

Love is patient even when people let them down, disappoint them, or don’t respond as they want them to. It rarely allows impatience to creep in. Rather than criticizing or judging, love chooses to look for ways to be constructive and encouraging. This love that he speaks of does not operate for the purpose of the accumulation of possessions be they physical spiritual or emotional. It does not think of itself more highly than it ought to. True God-given love does not seek power wealth or fame. It is content to honor others. True love always displays, lives, and teaches good manners and is always looking for advantages in others rather than selfish advantages.

That pure love is not easily aggravated or disappointed and certainly does not keep a record of evils done against it. It does not gloat over the deficiencies in others by boasting how much better it is than these. God’s pure love shares in the joy of all who are choosing to live in the truth. That love has no end to its enduring of failures to its forgiveness of mistakes made but continues to hope against all hope and trust God even when things look impossible. True God-given pure love never fails.

Rom 4:18, “When there was nothing left to hope for, Abraham still hoped and believed.” True God-given pure love and taught love must always be our motivation in life whether we minister, pray, heal, or even move mountains. God will always honor the love that has learned to love others as he has loved us. 1 Tim 1:5, “My goal in giving you this order is for love to flow from a pure heart, a clear conscience, and a sincere faith.” God’s love is deeper than the deepest sea. I wonder if we truly appreciate how much God loves us and everything, He has done for us.

CHRISTIAN COWBOYS

Let me finish by quoting some verses from JB Phillips's translation.

2 Thes 3:5, "May the Lord guide your hearts into a deeper understanding of God's love and of the patient suffering of Christ." Our prayer should be that God would reveal to us how much He loves us and how we should learn to love others. Eph 3:16, "I'm asking God to give you a gift from the wealth of his glory." I pray that he will give you inner strength and power through His Spirit.

Eph 3:17, "Then Christ will live in you through faith. I also pray that love may be the ground into which you sink your roots and on which you have your foundation."

Eph 3:18, "This way, with all of God's people you will be able to understand how wide, long, high, and deep his love is."

Eph 3:19, "You will know Christ's love, which goes far beyond any knowledge." I am praying this so that you may be filled with God.

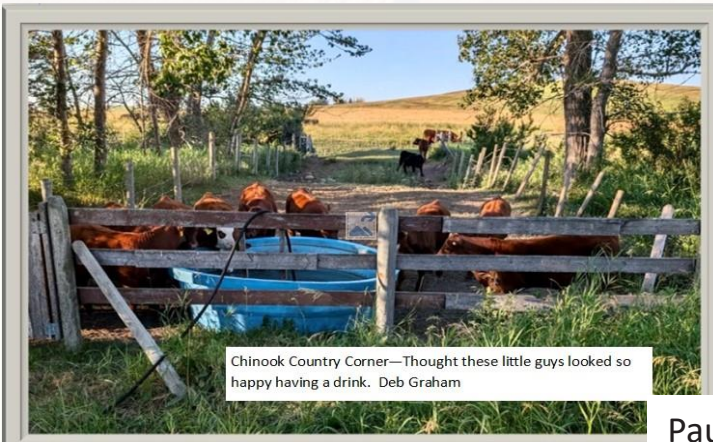
Eph 3:20, "Glory belongs to God, whose power is at work in us." By this power, he can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine, "Isn't the love of Jesus something wonderful?"

Let me read you a quote from JB Phillips's translation from Romans 13:10, "Love hurts nobody: (intentionally or unintentionally) therefore love is the answer to the laws commands."

Finally, let me encourage you to read prayerfully and meditate upon His Word. Ask God who can give us more than we can ever dream of to speak His great love into your heart. Ask God to make your heart an extension of His heart of love and for the power to share that love with others.

Brain McNaughton

Chinook Country Corner



Thank you to everyone once again for sending articles as the magazine is again sixteen pages instead of the regular twelve pages. If you have a next magazine please forward them to me at oldwomanabu@gmail.com Due – Anytime you have time!

This month I thought we would have fun with some questions from the Bible.

Enjoy ☺ Love, Light, and Laughter, Debbie Graham

What miracle did Peter perform for Aeneas? (Acts 9:32 – 35)

He healed his paralysis.

How was Naaman healed from leprosy? (2 Kings 5:13 – 14)

He dipped in the Jordan River seven times.

Paul raised a young man named Eutychus from the dead. How did he die? (Acts 20:7-12)

He fell asleep while listening to Paul and fell from a third-story window.

What will heaven, the New Jerusalem, be like? (Revelation 21:3-4)

There will be no more death, mourning, crying or pain.

Jesus loves us more than we will ever know. Read your Bible and get to know Him and your love for Him will grow as well.

Canadian Fellowship of Christian Cowboys

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