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Good News for Life's Highway

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INSIDE VIEW

Rev. Kevin Scott

Winter has finally arrived in Ontario. We made it until 2024 before it really arrived, but the snow and sub-zero temperatures are here. Along with the cold and snow come the inevitable vehicle issues that are bound to arise – I'm sure you know what I'm talking about.

This past week one of the dashboard notifications started going off in my car, telling me something was not working right. It was annoying and needed to be dealt with, as it kept switching my dash configuration from showing the speed I was driving to showing the notification that there was a problem. As a side note, I should never drive without the speed showing, I have learned that lesson well. I booked an appointment with the dealership and took my car in; they ran their tests and came back with a simple fix. It seems that some moisture had worked its way into one of the sensor connections, which was fine, but then when the cold hit it froze. When it froze it expanded, and now it was just a tiny barrier, but it was breaking the communication between the two parts that needed to talk to each other. I was in and out of the dealership in a very short time, and it was an easy fix – but it was an issue that got me thinking.

I started to think about how what had happened to my car is so much like what happens far too often to our relationships with God. We allow something to get in the way, maybe even something that seems harmless, but it ends up blocking the communication between us and God. Many different things can do this, and they all come back to a common source – sin.

We were created to have a relationship with God, but sin got in the way for everyone one of us. The Bible tells us this is the fallen condition common to all mankind. We see it in little children when they won't listen to parents, when they won't share and want to control and dictate everything. We see it in adults who show much the same tendencies, just sometimes a little more discreetly. It's in our determination to control our own lives, even though we know we haven't done that great of a job of it in the past.

Sin blocks the communication, creating a barrier between humanity and God – but there's a simple fix: Jesus. Jesus came to clear out that blockage, so that we could have our relationship and communication with God restored. And He offers that restoration to each one of us. It's a free gift, but it is a decision that each of us must make.

In this magazine you will read stories of people whose lives have been changed because they have been willing to have their relationships with God restored through Jesus. On the back cover you will read a simple three-step process by which you can do this yourself. And you don't have to do it alone; we would love to help you. On the front cover there's a phone number you can call to talk to someone, or there's an email at the back. There's also contact information for the Transport For Christ office in your country.

My car is back to working the way it was designed. We want the same to be true for your life. Please allow us to help you work through this sin problem that every one of us must face.

About the author: Kevin has accepted the role of TFC's Executive Director. He is a second-generation TFC staff member—his parents, Murray and Audrey, founded Overseas Ministries in 1994. Kevin and his wife, Lisa, pastored for 20 years as their children were growing up, before joining the Overseas Ministries Team in 2012. He later stepped into the lead role of Overseas Ministries, with Murray continuing to work with him. He will continue this role as he takes over the lead role of TFC, working with the Canadian Director to make a difference in the lives of drivers everywhere. He can be reached at kevin@transportforchrist.ca .

On the cover: *A 1986 Peterbilt with extended hood, this truck today is at the Keystone Truck & Tractor Museum in Colonial Heights ,VA. Photo by Donald Hollinger, taken when he visited the museum in 2016.*

"He said his world was falling apart"

By Chaplain Caleb Kisimba, Kasumbalesa Border, DRC

Chaplain Caleb (middle) with driver Musa (left) and Musa's brother (right).

Congestion and long queues of trucks on our roads is the order of the day, and truck drivers spend many days in the queue before reaching the Kasumbalesa Border Crossing. It was in such a queue of trucks that I met Musa Samuel, a Tanzanian truck driver who was traveling to Zambia. I greeted him and introduced myself. When I asked how he was doing, he said that his world was falling apart, and that he badly needed to talk to someone like me. He looked very troubled. At first I thought it had to do with the stresses of his job, and so I told him to calm down and let me know how I could help him.

He poured out his heart, almost as though unconsciously talking to himself. He said his problem had persisted for a long time, and he did not know what to do anymore. He said when he got married, he and his wife really loved each other; they were a perfect couple. He was already working as a cross-border truck driver at that time. The problems started after they had their first child. He started receiving reports from his relatives about the bad behavior of his wife when he was away from home. However, when he was at home, everything seemed to be well, so it was difficulty for him to believe the accusations that were raised against his wife, as she would behave in a traditionally acceptable manner for a housewife.

But after some time, the accusations were not only coming from his relatives, but also from neighbors and friends who disapproved of his wife's bad behavior while he was away from home. In order to save his marriage, he decided to quit the truck-driving job in hope of finding a job that would allow him to be close with his family most of the time. Unfortunately he had trouble finding such a job, so he tried to set up a small business to earn income for his family, but the business failed. Things quickly became hard, and his wife left him and went to stay with her family. She accused him of neglecting her and the child by not providing for them.

Musa went back to his cross-border trucking job, and when his wife heard about it, she asked him for forgiveness and to take her back. Because of the love he had for her, he agreed, reasoning that what they went through would serve as a lesson to both of them. Sadly, things did not work out as he hoped. They are living together, but things have not improved. She constantly makes demands for money, which he cannot afford. When he would be away for a prolonged period, she would claim that the child was sick and demand that he send her a lot of money for medical bills—when in fact the child would be well and healthy. When he wanted to buy a medical insurance for the family, the wife opposed it. She also asked him for money to start a small farming project to supplement the family's income, but to date there is nothing to show for all the money he gave her. When he asks her how the project is doing, she becomes hostile.

Musa said he had become a laughingstock to his family and neighbors, and that he was actually contemplating committing suicide even before he got back to Tanzania.

I assured Musa that God had an answer to every problem, although the answer may not come as we expect it. I quoted to him Jesus' encouraging words in Matthew 11:28, "Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." "Trust Him and give Him a chance to turn your life around," I said; "He can bring peace to your life."

I prayed for Musa and he said he immediately felt a relief in his burdened soul. We exchanged our cell phone numbers, and he asked me to keep in contact with him and continue encouraging him, which I will do.

Chirundu Border Ministry Report

By Chaplain Enaritta Phiri

I approached driver Tawanda and, after introducing myself and giving him a copy of *Good News For Life's Highway* magazine, I said that I was aware that truck drivers were very busy people who are usually focused on where they were going—the final destination of their trip—and did not have much time for other things. I then asked him if, in his thoughts about a final destination, Had he ever spared some time think about where he would spend eternity—the final destination of us all. If so, had he prepared himself for it?

Tawanda's empty stare at me told me that the unexpected question had jolted his mind. I asked him to turn to the back of the magazine and go through the ABCs with me. When we finished, I asked him if he was willing to accept Jesus as his personal Savior and Lord. He had stayed in his truck as we talked; but he had a female companion in the truck, so he excused himself and came down from the truck to pray with us to receive Jesus as his Savior.

Moving on to the next truck, we found a group of drivers chatting among themselves. One of them, John, immediately recognized me and welcomed us to the group. John has visited our chapel a number of times following his conversion through our ministry, and was featured in one of the magazines before.

I was glad to see him spiritually grown and sharing the Gospel with other truck drivers. He prepared the ground for me to share the Word of God, and I quickly turned to the editorial written by our director, Kevin Scott, in the latest magazine (December issue) in which he likened the life of a truck driver to that of the shepherds in the Christmas story.

I told the drivers that that is how important they were in the eyes of God and to their communities. I said, "Even when you're all too busy with your work that you do not have time to go to church, God still thinks of the truck driver."

John echoed my words and said, "Indeed, God thinks about us! During the COVID outbreak, a lot of people died and many were under a lockdown, but we truck drivers who were so exposed to the risk of contracting the disease, since we traveled to risky places, were largely spared from the scourge. We can only attribute our safety and survival to God's special grace on the truck drivers." We prayed together for them before we left.

HISTORY OUR STORY

King David —Not a First Round Draft Pick

Samuel, the faithful prophet of Israel, was sent on a mission by God to the home of Jesse, in Bethlehem, to anoint a new king for the nation of Israel. Saul, its very first king, started his reign well. He followed God's commands, was well respected by the people, and led with humility. All of that changed during the last part of his reign, and God chose one of Jesse's sons to replace Saul.

Samuel was concerned that if King Saul found out about his assignment to anoint another king, that Saul would have him killed. So he went to Jesse's home under the guise of offering a sacrifice to the Lord. When he arrived in Bethlehem, he invited Jesse and his sons to the sacrifice. When they arrived, Samuel saw Eliab, the oldest son, and thought to himself "surely the Lord's anointed stands here before the Lord" (1 Samuel 16:6). But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not consider his appearance or his height, for the Lord has not chosen him." Jesse called his second son, but Samuel said, "The Lord has not chosen him either." Jesse had seven of his sons pass before Samuel, but Samuel again said the Lord had not chosen any of them, and asked Jesse, "Are these all the sons that you have?" Jesse answered, "There is still the youngest, who is tending the sheep." Samuel said, "Send for him." Jesse brought in his youngest boy, David, and presented him to Samuel. Then the Lord said, "Rise and anoint him, this is the one" (1 Samuel 16:12).

Your life and story are important, and God has a special part of His Story to write with you specifically in mind. Throughout human history, He has chosen to interact with regular people like you and me to fulfil His plan. Each Christian, each follower of Jesus Christ, has a unique place in His Story.

So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed David in the presence of his brothers, and from that day on the Spirit of the Lord came upon him in power.

David at this time was just a young lad. It appears that his father, Jesse, did not consider him even a candidate for the job. In Jesse's eyes, he was a distant 8th in the running. Physically, he paled in comparison to his older brothers. Samuel had been impressed with the appearance and the height of the oldest son, but the Lord shared with Samuel His criteria for choosing the next king of Israel: "The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart" (1 Samuel 16:7).

The Lord saw past the physical body of a youth, into the heart and into the life to come. He knew that David would follow the true God and lead the nation of Israel to become the most powerful nation in the world at that time.

David reminds me of the Lord Jesus. The Bible teaches that Jesus had the appearance of a regular man. The prophet Isaiah reported that "there was no beauty in Him that we should desire Him." However, no one before or since has had the impact on the world like Jesus. And it was from the line of King David that Jesus came.

It is so encouraging to see that God chooses to use regular folks like you and me to do His work. God is more interested in the condition of our hearts than our physical appearance. God takes regular folks and through His Spirit enables them to do incredible things for His Kingdom when they are willing. We are "His Ambassadors," representing Jesus to our family, to our community, and in our workplace. Pray that God would give you an opportunity to share the good news of Jesus with someone this week.

About the author: Terry Wills is president of Wills Transfer Limited, a fourth-generation family-owned transportation and warehousing company based in Eastern Ontario. He and his wife, Heather, have two children and six grandchildren. He is actively involved in the business along with his son Jordi. He has a passion for building teams to provide logistics solutions to their customers and sharing his faith in Jesus with others. He and his family have been long-time supporters of the ministry of TFC.

God's Love Changing Lives in Brazil

As reported by Chaplain Marcelo da Silva Soares

Looking back at 2023, we rejoice at what a blessed year we at TFC/CASE have had, seeing many truckers surrender their lives to Christ. But we make sure to follow-up with them, helping them, and in many cases their families, in their new journey of faith.

Paulo's Story

Truck driver Paulo stopped by the chapel just to have his blood pressure checked, but God had more planned for him that day. As volunteer chaplain Walter sat down with him to do the BP check, he asked how things were going. Paulo seemed glad he was asked and started sharing about family relationship problems he was facing. He said he didn't go to church, but recognized that there was something wrong and that it could only be resolved with God's help.

Paulo (right) with Chaplain Walter

Seeing his willingness to talk about spiritual things, Walter opened God's Word and explained what it says about His plan for our lives. He also shared about God's work in his own life, and that He could do the same for him. Paulo was open to hear more, so Walter said, "I would like to pray for you and your family, but first let me ask you: would you like to commit your life to Jesus Christ, accepting Him as your Savior?" Paulo's answer was, "Yes, I do! I need to hit the road, but have time for that. And please say a prayer for my family!" Chaplain Walter led Paulo in a prayer of commitment, then prayed for his family.

Wesley's Story

Truck drivers in Brazil (and I imagine it's the same in the U.S.) spend a lot of time on the road—sometimes weeks—and that means long periods away from their families. That was driver Wesley's situation. He came to talk to us because he liked the look of the chapel and wanted to know what we did there.

Wesley (left) with Chaplain Marcelo

As I explained our mission, he started sharing that he really had no relationship with his wife and children—that the trucking life was hard on family members, but was also hard on the truckers themselves. He said his family did not understand that he had no choice about being gone so much and for such long periods of time. I listened as he unburdened himself, then I spoke to him about the wonderful love of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, who helps us carry our burdens and can give us hope and joy even in the midst of difficult circumstances. When I asked him if he would like to surrender his life to Christ, he answered with a determined "yes!" I prayed for him and for his family, and he left the chapel with Jesus in his life and hope in his heart.

Delcidio's Story

The God we serve is a God who often surprises us! We met trucker Delcidio two years ago and have been in touch with him ever since. Delcídio had the desire to commit his life to Christ, but he comes from a family committed to a works-based religion and his parents are very old. He was afraid that telling them that he had made the decision to follow Christ would upset them and affect their health. I tried to tell him that he should trust Jesus to protect his parents and give them peace about his decision. But still he was afraid of doing it.

Whenever Delcidio returned from the road he would stop by the chapel to talk to us, and in one of these occasions he told us that the following week he would be at his parents' house and would talk to them about his desire to follow Christ. A few weeks later he returned to the chapel and told us that the conversation with his parents was wonderful. They were pleased with their son's consideration toward them, and made it clear that they respected his decision.

We had the joy of praying with him as he accepted Jesus Christ as his Savior and Lord. This happened several months ago, and we have been able to minister to him and help him grow in his faith. During one of our conversations we mentioned about baptism as a step of obedience and public testimony of his faith. He promptly expressed a desire to do that, and on this past December 18th my pastor and I had the great joy of baptizing Delcidio. Please pray for him, that his life will bear witness to his family and bring them to faith in Christ as well.

Imbituba Update

Chaplain Joel (in the blue shirt on the right) reports that in this past year more than 5,000 copies of the New Testament were given out to drivers, in addition to countless tracts, devotional books and other evangelistic materials.

But he and his team don't just hand these out, but make sure they engage the drivers in conversation and minister to them as the Holy Spirit leads them. "We want to let them know that there is Someone who cares for them and wants to help them through the problems and difficulties they face in life," he says.

One such case was trucker José (inside his truck, below). When Chaplain Joel approached him and offered him a copy of the New Testament, José refused, saying the book "didn't mean anything to him." When Chaplain Joel asked if he would like to talk about it, José began to tell his story: his wife had left him, he hadn't seen his children for a long time, and was feeling depressed and hopeless.

Chaplain Joel acknowledged the heartbreak of his situation, but then said that, while those around him had disappointed and rejected him, there was Someone who loved him and would never leave him or forsake him. Hearing this, José began to weep and said he was willing to listen. Chaplain Joel shared God's plan of salvation and then prayed with José as he committed his life to Christ. When they parted, there was an expression of joy and hope in José face. Let us pray for him, especially for family reconciliation.

It's Not Just a Man's World

By Beverley Robson, Ph.D.

Interview with a Lady Trucker

Happy trucking team: Jerry and Tanna

It was an exciting experience for my sister and me—as we finally got our turn to go on the road with our dad. We had just delivered a load of mustard seed, grown on our farm in Saskatchewan, and our truck had arrived at our next stop at the top of a Los Angeles mountain—an open pit oyster shell mine, where we took a load of the oyster shell to bring back to Canada. The year was 1967, and that was my first (and last) "real" trucking experience.

And now for a new mountaintop experience: writing for TFC. This may sound unusual for a retired nurse with no trucking experience, but I am thrilled to be invited to do so. I know that the trucking industry is "manned" by a good number of women, and I've found myself wondering about their experiences. In this article, you will meet one of those lady truck drivers, Tanna Neitch, from British Columbia. Tanna is also a truck driver's wife, so she comes superbly qualified to comment. Just as important, she has been a longtime friend of the TFC ministry. Let's meet her.

Tanna, tell us a bit about yourself, your family and background.

I was born in Manitoba. When I was two years old, we moved west to Mission, BC. Growing up I didn't know what I wanted to be or do. I married and we had a son, and when he was four years old I went to work in a lottery kiosk. I did that for 17 years, during which time my first marriage ended. My second marriage is to my best friend, Jerry, who was a childhood sweetheart of mine. We both love the Lord and have been married 15 years. And yes, he is a truck driver. Unlike myself, he knew from a young age that he wanted to be a truck driver when he grew up.

Tell us about that aspect of your life.

I started travelling as a passenger with Jerry. He taught me to drive and now I've been licensed for eight years (he's been driving for 40). A few years ago we moved from the lower mainland of BC to an area that we love, but where driving opportunities are not so plentiful. So we've gone to northern BC at times for work. We've driven our Western Star tanker trucks there to service work camps. Winter can be hard on equipment; a pump house water breakdown in one camp required that we drove daily to supply the camp with fresh water. But servicing the camp sites is not steady work and we get laid off from time to time.

Are there unique challenges for women drivers?

I love being with my husband as we're able to help each other, especially now that we're a bit older. We complement one another. We use chains regularly during the winter months but those triple chains are something I as a woman still need help lifting on.

Tell us a bit about your relationship to Jesus Christ.

Both my husband and I grew up in Christian families and we attended the same church as children. We were both unequally yoked in our first marriages. I fell away from the for many years. Fifteen years ago my godparents, a Christian couple, were celebrating their 50th anniversary. That's when I rededicated my life to Jesus Christ. Jerry and I got together soon after. He and I drove together all over the U.S. , meeting many Christians. Some are still friends today. We make a point of looking them up whenever we're driving in their area.

Do you find opportunity from time to time to share the Gospel?

Showing God's love to others is always different. I'm learning not to judge others—just care and love them as Jesus would. That's our life's work – out on the road, spreading God's Word and showing love to those we meet. It is our desire and hope that we are always listening to Him and that we are doing His will and not our own. We desire to make a small difference in someone's life out on the road.

- Continued on next page

The Collective

Dwayne Johnson

Share Your Prayers

One of the trucking companies that I visit weekly has what they call a "Cares List." This is a weekly prayer sheet that goes out to the leadership of the company so that they can pray for the needs of their employees. What a great idea.

Several years ago, I was personally challenged after I realized that, as I asked many drivers how I could pray for them, I wrote it down on a list and prayed for them in my daily prayer times, but I was not praying *with* those drivers. So now when I ask drivers (and others) how I can pray for them and they share their request with me, I stop right then and pray. It doesn't matter where I'm at, how many people are there, or how busy we are, I stop and pray. I believe this has a huge impact on those that are being prayed for and gives them the chance to go before God with me.

James chapter 5, verses 13-20 give us some direction on the topic of prayer. Verse 13 says that if anyone is suffering, we should pray. Likewise, anyone who is cheerful should pray and give thanks. There are enough unhappy people in the world today. One of the blessings of Christ is that we can be cheerful and full of joy because of what He's done for us. Verses 14 and 15 continue with that same idea, telling us if any is sick, we should have the elders anoint them with oil and pray over them. I believe this is not only for the physically sick, weak, and weary, but for those who are suffering morally and spiritually as well. There's nothing better than a brother or sister in Christ who prays with you when you are struggling with some type of temptation and sin. In fact, verse 15 says if someone commits sin, they should pray and ask for forgiveness (the sooner the better). In 1 John 1:9 we read that "if we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." If you're not sure if you've ever confessed your sins to God, please contact someone from this publication and have them pray with you today. Don't put it off another minute.

Continuing in James chapter 5, verse 16 says that "the effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much." Prayers should refresh, encourage, uplift, and restore. Verses 17 and 18 gives us the example of Elijah (see 1 Kings 17). He prayed earnestly. I like the word "earnestly" there. It means he took it very seriously, not lightly or flippantly. I couldn't tell you how many times I've heard people say things like, "There's nothing left to do but pray" and my personal favorite, "I guess all we can do is pray." Verse 19 says that if a bother "strays from the truth," prayer can turn him back to the Lord.

My friends, PRAYER should be the first thing we do! And what a great thing to share with others.

About the author: Dwayne Johnson is the founder and executive director of ***The Trucking Collective****, an organization dedicated to bridging relationships between truckers, trucking companies, and the local church to achieve radical transformation in Jesus Christ. He describes himself as "a veteran of the United States Army, husband to Brenda, father to four amazing adult children and grandfather of a beautiful granddaughter." Check their website,* ***www.thetruckingcollective.org,*** *for many valuable resources available for professional drivers.*

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What has the ministry of TFC meant to you?

The cool thing is when we are trucking and see a TFC trailer at a truck stop, we know it's a place we can go to if we have a need or even if it's just to say hello and encourage them.

I've never heard the stories of a lady truck driver before and I'm so thankful to have had this opportunity. It has helped me to know how better to pray for them. I look forward to sharing more stories in future editions.

ACTSA Holds Christmas Driver Appreciation Event

From reports by Chaplain Brian Teputepu

Just before Christmas, Chaplain Brian Teputepu and his team led a driver appreciation event at several truck parks in the Beitbridge area just before Christmas. They fed and ministered to 330 drivers during those three days! Below, in Chaplain Brian's words, is a report of the exciting event.

These drivers were parked at the Steve Truck Park. It's a park owned by two brothers, one of which was part of this group. Accompanied by Jabulani Makhadho from NorthStar Wellness Clinic, we shared the Gospel with them as they were waiting for papers to continue to Durban. This small group of a mixture of Zambian and Zimbabwean drivers were away from their families just days before Christmas and would be either on the road or in Durban on Christmas Day.

We reminded them that Christmas is all about Christ, and that the biggest gift anyone can give themselves is to surrender their life to Christ. I shared from Revelation 3:20, which says, "Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in." Four of them prayed, opening the door of their lives to the Lord.

Chaplain David Kororo, who joined us on the first day, wrote about his experience: "I can't often team up with fellow chaplains anymore, since I am always on the road, especially during big programs. So it was a blessing to join the Beitbridge team for the recent driver appreciation days. I went out with Chaplain Emmanuel, Chaplain Gannett and a female volunteer from a local church. We approached Driver Nyikadzino, who was waiting for papers to head to South Africa. Chaplain Emanuel introduced us to him and I shared the Gospel, starting by saying I was a fellow truck driver, with my truck parked some 100 meters away, in another park, and that I also was waiting on papers so could understand his anxiety. I shared about having hope in the middle of the uncertainty of these days, and that comes from fellowship with Christ. Chaplain Emmanuel prayed for us and Chaplain Gannett did the closing remarks."

In yet another truck park, security welcomed us with appreciation. There was only one truck parked there, and we went together to the truck. The driver understood our mission after we introduced our team, which included Pst. Makhadho.

While we were sharing meal packs and gifts, we explained that the best gift was to have Christ in our lives. The driver stepped off his truck and accepted to pray the salvation prayer with us—and so did the security guy!

The appreciation meal packs and gifts we distributed where very appreciated by the drivers. This time we visited drivers in their trucks—that way we were able to connect with more of them and had more time to engage them in conversation.

Most were amazed that there were people who thought it was important to express gratitude to truck drivers. For most of them, it was the first time anyone ever did that. They encouraged us to extend our efforts to other borders, and also to do it more regularly.

Looking back at the event, Chaplain Elson says, "While Lead Chaplain Brian was supervising and preparing all that was needed for the success of the Driver Appreciation Days, we were able to visit parked trucks. Accompanied by one of our most consistent volunteers, Elder Zhou, we ministered to them in word and prayer. One even prayed with us the salvation prayer! We handed out copies of Good News for Life's Highway *magazine and added to the ACTSA group the names of those who were interested in being a part of it."*

Nouvelles en Français du Québec

Par Jacques Poirier, Aumônier - Saint-Liboire, Québec

L'année 2024 nous réserverait-elle des choses surprenantes? Comme à tous les débuts d'année, nous nous questionnons sur ce qui pourrait se produire.

J'aimerais vous entretenir sur ce que je crois qui pourrait nous arriver et qui serait très bien pour chacun de nous.

L'année 2023 a été difficile pour plusieurs mais certains ont très bien tiré leur épingle du jeu. J'ai eu l'opportunité de rencontrer, à la chapelle et ailleurs des gens très inquiets et des personnes qui semblaient contrôler la situation. Pour quelques-uns les changements sont très affolants. Nous devons nous adapter à tous les soubresauts de la vie. Parfois les problèmes familiaux se présentent et nous ne savons pas comment les gérer. À d'autres moments il y aura un conflit au travail ou avec quelqu'un que nous considérions être un bon ami. Tout ceci ajouté au climat international qui se dégrade de jour en jour.

Nous les Québécois somment habitués à une vie paisible et tout ce bouleversement nous dérangent beaucoup. Notre routine est cassée. Les services que nous avions toujours utilisés, soit ne sont plus là ou même parfois n'existent plus.

Soyez assurés que je ne suis pas différent de chacun de vous. J'ai cependant un endroit ou m'accrocher et me sentir en sécurité. Ma confiance dans la Parole de Dieu me procure la paix dont j'ai besoin pour rester calme malgré la tempête qui sévit présentement sur notre planète.

L'apôtre Paul dans sa lettre aux Philippiens, nous dit de ne pas s'inquiéter mais de faire connaitre nos besoins à Dieu. Pour certains d'entre nous, la prière ne fait pas partie de leur mode de vie. Je peux quand même vous assurer que lorsque l'on fait connaitre nos besoins et nos inquiétudes au Dieu tout-puissant, il vient installer dans notre cœur une paix qui surpasse toute intelligence (Philippiens: 4:6-7).

Recevons la Paix de Dieu en ce début d'année. Venons simplement dans sa présence par la prière et Il agira. Ce n'est pas toujours facile de s'humilier et d'admettre que nous ne sommes plus en contrôle. Faisons confiance à l'intervention de notre Créateur.

Il me fait toujours plaisirs de vous accueillir ou de répondre à un appel téléphonique.

Je vous invite à venir nous rencontrer lorsque la chapelle est ouverte.

Vous êtes les bienvenues. Que notre grand Dieu vous garde.

About the Author: Jacques Poirier is lead chaplain at the TFC chapel in St-Liboire, QC. He has been with the ministry since 2014.

Memorial & Honor Gifts

In Memory of Roy Hewitson
By Murray & Jackie McLelland
Gary & Evelyn Watt

In Honor of Chaplain Paul & Edna Cairns
On their 50th Wedding Anniversary
By Volunteer Chaplain Ed & Arlene Young-Reimer

From the Heart of a Chaplain

By Chaplain Geoff Sutton, Pass Lake Chapel

What Will It Take…

...to take us to heaven? Will being good do it? I'm a pretty good guy. After all, I haven't killed anyone; I don't steal stuff or break the law. I don't even tell lies (much). I'm positive God will welcome me to heaven. That's what I used to think.

But what does the Bible say about it? After all, just about everyone agrees with most of what the Bible teaches. Don't murder. Don't steal. Don't tell lies. Don't cheat on your spouse. Those are all good things, right? We agree with them. But what does it say about going to heaven?

I once heard a preacher say that getting to heaven is simple: we just have to be perfect—absolutely perfect for our entire lives. See? It's simple, although not easy. In fact it's impossible, as we all know.

Let's use an analogy. Let's imagine that anyone who can jump and touch the moon from Earth automatically goes to heaven. Now it doesn't really matter if we are at the top of Mount Everest or if we are at the bottom of the Marianas Trench – the distance to the moon is too great that no matter how high I jump from anywhere, the success possibility is zero. It's the same thing with righteousness, with being "good enough." When compared to God, there is no effective difference between Hitler and the Apostle Paul.

So what can we do? Nothing. Our actions, no matter how noble, will never earn us Heaven, and God knows that. And knowing that, He gave us Jesus Christ. The Bible describes Jesus as God in man's flesh—it says He was fully God and fully man. He is the only one to ever live a perfect, sinless life. Then He was crucified and died. We are told that Jesus willingly died for our sins, and in doing so, He paid the penalty for our sins. But He overcame death, rising from the grave on the third day, and there is historical proof of that.

The last thing Jesus said on the cross was "It is finished!" In the original Greek, that is one word, a word that means "paid in full." This is what Jesus did: He paid our debt in full, and in doing so opened the way to heaven for us. This is a free gift; all we have to do is accept it from Him. Because sin no longer separates us from God once we accept His gift, we can have a relationship with Him; actually the Bible says that God adopts us as children once we have accepted His free gift.

Are you free from the penalty of sin? Are you certain you are going to Heaven when you die? One hundred percent certain? If not, then now is the time. All you need to do is say, "God, I need Jesus' forgiveness for my sins" (or some variation of that). That is the first step. With that comes a change: peace. We want to know God better, so we read the record of His Word, the Bible.

If you have decided that you are done with sin and the misery it brings, stop in at one of our chapels and have a chat with the chaplain. He will help you by answering questions and giving you resources for your new life. But most importantly, he will pray with you and for you specifically rather than generically.

The Bible says that there is greater joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over a multitude of "good" people who think they don't need repentance. Be a source of joy to God today—turn to Him and receive His forgiveness and a new life. We are praying for you.

About the author: Geoff Sutton is a volunteer chaplain at the Pass Lake TFC Chapel. In Thunder Bay, Ontario.

Letter from a Grateful Driver

It Was Just a Christmas Stocking with Some Gifts...

Dear Chaplain Len,

My name is Dan; I am the Penske driver that you blessed with a stocking full of goodies yesterday at the truck stop in Drumbo. I wanted to thank you again for your kindness, and tell you how I am sure God orchestrated our meeting yesterday.

I had just pulled in off the highway because my driver's side windshield wiper was coming off the hook, and as you know, weather was a mix of rain and snow and it was pretty heavy on the highway from Cambridge all the way to Woodstock at that time. I had already stopped at exit #268 about 15 minutes earlier because of the same issue. I'd clipped it back in and tugged on it hard a few times and it was attached properly, or so I thought. I reattached it again and was ready to leave when you pulled up and gave me that stocking. I wasn't sure at the time, but I thought I saw a cross on your jacket. As I pulled away I pulled out the newspaper and saw your card and your ministry and I'm not ashamed to say that the Spirit of God moved me to weep tears of joy, and the rest of my trip the Lord brought to my thoughts many things that my wife and I had been neglecting in our Christian life as of late.

My wife has been a Christian since childhood thanks to her godly mother. I became a Christian ten years ago, around the time I met my wife. The last three years have been hard on us. As we went through COVID we experienced a great trial because of a family member who got into some trouble. We chose to support him through it, but it was very painful and took a lot out of us. The Lord was faithful as we leaned on Him, and He answered our prayers. He saw us and our family member through, and as a result he has turned his life around and has trusted Christ. He is now seeking out a church that he may grow in his faith. We praise the Lord for this.

The problem is, we belonged to a legalistic church and found no support there—on the contrary, what felt more like judgment. That, along with the growing coldness in the world, caused us to grow cold ourselves and retreat into our own world. We left that church and have not been engaged in ministry or had a church for a while now. Although our love and faith in Jesus never wavered, our love for others did and our service to Christ has been greatly diminished. I share my story with you, Len, so that you know that your kind act in doing the will and service of God yesterday was used of Him to instill an infusion of new love into my heart. He has convicted me to search for a new church and get back to the business of serving Him, helping and loving others, and trying to reach them for Christ.

When I told my wife what had happened, she also wept with joy, and was in agreement with me on everything. We both agreed that a miracle had happened, and we praised and thanked the Lord for it. I never knew of this ministry for truckers... what great opportunity to reach those who spend so much time alone.

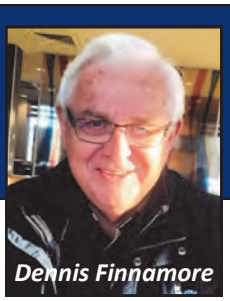
Thanks again, Len, for being willing to be used of God, and know that He has used you mightily to help a fellow brother and sister in Christ today. If there's anything we can ever do to help you in your ministry, please don't hesitate to ask. If we are able to help, we will be more than happy to. My wife Julie and I want to bless you and donate to your ministry. Can you please let me know how we can do that?

Sincerely, In Christ,
Dan C.

PS: I want you to know that I never had an issue with that wiper before, and I haven't had an issue with it since. God is good and worthy of all honor and praise.

Chaplain Len Reimer is lead chaplain at the Drumbo Truck Stop in Drumbo, Ontario.

A Closing Word
From the Canadian Director


Dennis Finnamore

It's that time of the year...

This is a time of the year when many people struggle with depression and discouragement. I have heard that February is one of the most discouraging months for many people. Are you prepared for the battles that lie ahead?

How do we make it through such times? All you hear is bad news. Many people feel anxious about their life and what is happening to their family. How do we handle all the things that are happening to us, the things that cause us concern and stress? How do we get peace and find joy when we hurt and are overwhelmed?

The answer is in the Bible—but not just in a scripture that is picked out of the air (or by opening a Bible at random and placing your finger on the page). It comes from the message that is woven all through the Word of God. Its message is one of love and compassion. It's a message of promise and commitment to us from a loving Father who indeed cares about you and your life and what you face on a daily basis.

He tells us this in so many ways—like in John 3:16, where we read that "God so loved the world" (that means you!) that He gave His only Son to live a perfect life and then die to pay the penalty of our sins, showing us that nothing was too much to endure for us.

When you grasp that kind of love and accept His invitation to follow, you then are ready to listen to a chaplain or a pastor who reads things like, "Behold, I am with you always," or "I will never leave you nor forsake you." The Bible and its promises will come alive and you will be able to get in that truck with a new sense of purpose and peace, knowing you have tools to face whatever comes your way.

About the author: Dennis Finnamore joined the ministry of TFC in 1989 as Regional Director for the Atlantic Provinces. In October of 1991 he added to his duties being chaplain at the chapel in Lutes Mountain. In 1994 he became the Canadian Director of TFC while continuing to minister at the chapel until 2000, when Chaplain Paul Leger assumed the role of lead chaplain at that chapel (now in Salisbury). His goal now is to look for new, creative ways to present the Gospel to those in the trucking community.

Partnership Information

This ministry is only possible thanks to generous donations from people just like you.
If you want to make a tax-deductible donation to help reach truck drivers and those who are part of the trucking community throughout our world, donations can be made in one of the following ways:

In Canada:
Cheque: Mail to Transport For Christ, 6242 Route 105, Lower Brighton, NB E7P 1B3
Online: Go to www.TransportForChrist.ca and choose "donate"
E-transfer: Send to tfcnbcanada@gmail.com

In the United States:
Check: Mail to Grace Church, 1300 Lake Douglas Rd., Bainbridge, GA 39819
(Checks payable to Grace Church with a note for Transport For Christ.)
Online: Go to www.gracechurchga.org/give; click the drop down menu and choose Overseas Ministries (TFC).

Thank you for your partnership and support!

Do you know where you will spend eternity? You can – it's as easy as ABC...

A **Admit that you have sinned.**
"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23).
"For the wages of sin is death…" (Romans 6:23a).
God loves us and wants a relationship with us; but He is holy and perfect and our sin separates us from Him.

B **Believe that Jesus paid God's price for our sin when He died on the cross.**
"But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8).
"…but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 6:23b).
God sent Jesus Christ to take the punishment for our sins on Himself, dying on the cross. When He rose from the dead on Easter morning, He broke the power of sin over those who choose to accept Him as their Saviour and Lord.

C **Choose to accept Jesus' sacrifice for you and receive the free gift of forgiveness He offers.**
"If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved…For 'whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved'" (Romans 10:9,13).
"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9).

You CAN know where you will spend eternity. If you want to begin a relationship with God and allow Him to become your Forgiver and Saviour, pray this prayer and believe it in your heart: "*God, I know that I have sinned and need forgiveness. Thank You for sending Jesus to pay the price for my sin so I can have a relationship with You. Today I put my trust in You. Become the leader of my life and help me to follow You from today forward. Amen*."

If you prayed this prayer, we would like to help you begin your exciting new journey. Please send us an email to transportforchrist@outlook.com and let us know, so we can help you along this road.

Need to talk to someone? Need prayer? Or just some 'down' time? Stop by a TFC Chapel! We're there to serve you.

Alberta:
Calgary—Roadking Travel Centre, 4949 Barlow Trail, Chaplain Sam 403-369-1407
Edmonton/Sherwood Park area—Volunteer Chaplain Heinz available at 587-988-1539

British Columbia:
Chilliwack—Hampton Inn, 8050 Lickman Road, Chilliwack, Chaplain Paul 604-217-2197 & Chaplain Gerrit 604-308-4225

New Brunswick:
Salisbury—Salisbury Big Stop, TCH Route 2 & Route 112, Exit433, Chaplain Paul 506-866-1737

Ontario:
Drumbo—Drumbo Truck Stop, Hwy 401, exit 250, Chaplain Len 519-536-6045
Pass Lake/Thunder Bay—Flying J Travel Plaza, 3200 Hwy11/17 @ Hwy 587, Volunteer Chaplain Ken 807-707-4419

Quebec:
St-Liboire—Irving Big Stop, Hwy 20, Exit 145, Chaplain Jacques 819-817-6679, 450-924-1382

Overseas Ministries:
Outside of Canada we work with local NGOs and churches to facilitate the ministry and ensure that all local regulations are followed. The following are our Overseas Ministry locations/partners:

BRAZIL: CASE-PR
Paranaguá—Paranaguá Port, Chaplain Marcelo & Ministry Team
Imbituba—Simon Truck Stop, Chaplain Claudonir & Ministry Team
Campo Grande—Posto Platinão, Pastor Marcelo

PARAGUAY: CASE-PY & CoGoP
Puerto Falcón—Chaplain Heriberto & Ministry Team

RUSSIA: Baptist Federation
Moscow Ring Road—Chaplains Alexander and Vladimir

DRC: Gospel Servants Ministries
Kasumbalesa Border Crossing—Chaplains Peter, Caleb & Dally

ZAMBIA: Gospel Servants Ministries
Chirundu Border Crossing—Chaplain David and Team
Copperbelt Mobile Ministry—Chaplains Peter, Joshua, Simon & Teddy

ZIMBABWE: Association of Christian Truckers of Southern Africa
Beitbridge—Chaplains Brian Teputepu, David Kororo and teams

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www.transportforchrist.ca
506-612-0712 • Prayer Line 1-888-980-PRAY (7729)