



HIGHWAY NEWS



A Trucking Family's Miracle - Page 10

TFC Global

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A Word from Our President

Do you know that you will become what your daily choices make you?

At a meeting of a large group of men I asked, “How many of you, in five or ten or thirty years from now, want to be sold out to Jesus Christ, a disciple of the King, empowered by the Holy Spirit, saturated in His Word, and yielded to His will?”

Ninety percent of the hands shot up. They meant it. Then I told them the bad news: many who raised their hands would never become that person. They would not finish well. It’s easier to raise a hand today than to make the kinds of choices day after day after day after day that result in a long obedience in the same direction.

Every day we are becoming someone—the question is, who?

Dawson Trotman, founder of The Navigators, used to say, “You are going to be what you are now becoming.”

Scripture speaks of this process of character development (2 Corinthians 3:18). You become like what you choose to behold. Behold Christ, you become Christ-like. Gaze upon superficiality and immorality, and it’s equally predictable what you’ll become.

Who you become will be the cumulative result of the daily choices you make.

The Bible tells us, “The path of the righteous is like the first light of dawn, which shines brighter and brighter until full day” (Proverbs 4:18). This is why Scripture continually warns us against wrong choices: “Do not enter the path of the wicked and do not walk in the way of the evil. Avoid it; do not go on it; turn away from it and pass on” (Proverbs 4:14-15).

Our choices flow out of our hearts, and therefore we must take care to guard them from contamination: “Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life” (Proverbs 4:23). What’s the most effective way to contaminate a water supply? Poison it at its source. If you don’t guard your heart from the world’s values, you will be conformed to the world (Romans 12:1-2).

It takes no more effort to be conformed to the world than it does to float downstream. To be transformed by the renewing of our minds is to swim upstream against the current. Renewing our minds requires conscious, deliberate effort.

You will become the product of what you choose to delight in and meditate upon.

Psalms 1 is a powerful formula for endurance: “Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers. But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night” (Psalm 1:1-2).

We all meditate, and we’re all shaped by the object of our meditation. We take our attitudinal and behavioral cues from it. This week, ask yourself: “Will I be shaped by the world and its ideologies or will I be shaped by the Word of God?”

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On the Cover: Doyle Martin and his son Gardell ("A Trucking Family's Miracle," page 10) stand with his 2018 Peterbilt, leased to Sauder Truck Brokerage, Reinholds, PA.

NEWS FROM BEAVERDAM, OHIO

- As reported by Nancy Spallinger -

Ministry in Beaverdam started in 2008 at the Pilot Travel Center, under the leadership of David Lugibihl. In 2014, a second location began across the street at the Flying J Travel Plaza. The associates and prayer partners meet once a month for a prayer breakfast and Bible study, to pray for the needs of the ministry, which is the key to the success of the ministry at Beaverdam.



Many changes in the trucking industry have affected the way ministry is done. These changes seem to put much pressure on the drivers to adhere to a rigid schedule. When Beaverdam first started, there were days that many drivers stopped in to be ministered to. Now there are many days where no one shows up. The associates greet them on the sidewalk, parking lot and dining area. For those who do come in, their needs are prayed for and they enjoy times of fellowship.

An encouraging encounter happened when driver Jason came in. He is from Canada and came in with a burden for another family. The associate prayed for that burden; then, after praying, he asked Jason if he had ever invited Jesus into his life. Jason at first did not understand, but after seeing Scriptures that show we all are sinners and need forgiveness, and that Jesus paid for our wrongdoing, he understood and asked Jesus to save him and give him a new life. He has agreed to stay in touch; we continue to keep him in prayer.

Prayer Requests: For the associates as they minister to the drivers—that they would be clean vessels for the Lord and would not get discouraged. Pray for the drivers that they would stop in when they have time.

The logs below are an additional glimpse of how the Lord is using the witness of the ministry in Beaverdam:

- ◆ A driver came in for counseling and prayer. He told me he has made some bad decisions. I prayed for the Lord to help him make better choices.
- ◆ A driver came in and shared his life with me. He has a lot of problems with family, including his wife leaving him. Through it all his faith seems to have remained strong. I asked him if I could pray for him, he said yes, but he also wanted to pray for me and the ministry here.
- ◆ I had four drivers come in at the same time. We enjoyed a good time of fellowship and prayed together.
- ◆ A driver from Toronto, Canada, came in for fellowship, prayer and encouragement. I lifted him up in prayer.
- ◆ A driver came in for a short time. He shared his testimony of having had a tough past, and came to Jesus thirteen years ago. I prayed with him before he left.
- ◆ A driver came in and stayed for over two hours. He was glad we were open. I gave him some *Highway News* to pass out on the road.
- ◆ A driver from Oklahoma came in. He knows the Lord and we had a nice time of fellowship.
- ◆ A driver from Minnesota, originally from Somalia, came in. He is a Muslim. We talked for a while and before he left I gave him some tracts and a *Highway News*.
- ◆ I had two drivers, at different times, come in for prayer. Both of them have family members who are sick and I prayed for them.
- ◆ A driver came in for prayer for his mom and for himself. She is eighty-three years old and is dying. He hopes he will be home tomorrow morning to see her. We prayed before he left.



*Immediate openings in the
following locations:*

DADE CITY, FLORIDA

EAST ST LOUIS, ILLINOIS

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

SHREWSBURY, MASSACHUSETTS

*Our drivers need committed
people to minister to them,
sharing the gospel and
walking life alongside them.*

COME JOIN OUR TEAM!



**Lancaster Chapter
Breakfast Team and the
York-Adams Chapter will be
hosting two ICTA
breakfast events. The theme of
each breakfast will be the
“Impact of Faith in the
Workplace.”**

Saturday, April 11, 7:30 am

Cross Keys Diner

6110 York Rd

New Oxford 17350

Buffet or menu options available for purchase.
RSVP info@tfcglobal.org.

Saturday, April 18, 7:30 am

Yoder's Restaurant

14 S Tower Rd

New Holland 17557

Buffet or menu options available for purchase
RSVP info@tfcglobal.org.

For more information,
email info@tfcglobal.org or
call 717-426-9977.

ON THE HOMEFRONT

At the International Office, our goal is to provide the best care and support for our staff across the country and around the world. In our daily devotion and prayer time, we are reading through the book of Mark. This book helps us remember our Savior's journey on earth.

1. Pray for our leadership and staff as they are sharing our ministry at various events. We hope to increase awareness and get people excited about serving with our team.
2. Plans are rolling out for a volunteer list to meet specific needs at our office. God loves when we serve Him together and connect with each other.
3. Coming Soon! We have ordered a new show trailer to be used for truck shows and other events. This will help increase the reach of our ministry as well as create a buzz about where God is leading us.

What is God calling you to do? Do you feel the tug on your heart to trust Him more with your finances and become a bigger financial giver to things that are important to Him?

"With man it is impossible, but not with God. For all things are possible with God" (Mark 10:27 ESV). If we do what God calls us to do, we will see His power as never before in our lives.

We need you to stand in the gap with us on behalf of this generation. Your support is vital. Please pray about your response to giving a legacy gift.



Pastor's Corner - Rev. Robert Strobel

My family attended church every week when I was a child, but I do not remember hearing any emphasis on the need of a personal relationship with Jesus for eternal life. In my adult years, I was a youth leader, adult Sunday school teacher, and elder in the church. As a long distance truck driver, I had many opportunities to reflect on some of the things I was teaching.

It was May of 1981 and I was making a run to Norfolk, Virginia. The Holy Spirit began to draw my attention to my relationship with Christ. The same question kept coming to mind: If you wreck and die, where will you be for eternity? I could only answer, "I don't know!" I finally arrived at the TSA in Ashland, Virginia. That same question continued to haunt me, until I realized that I had never done what I had been teaching others needed to do (Romans 10:17)—I had never received Christ as my Savior.

Even though I had asked for forgiveness many times, it was always related to some need other than to have my relationship with my Heavenly Father, restored through His Son, Jesus Christ. That day, at about 3:00 AM in my sleeper, I prayed and asked Christ to forgive my sins and to become Lord of my life—period! I woke up the next morning and for the first time in my life, I knew something was different. I was different. At 31 years of age, I became a born again believer.

From that day on, I knew without a doubt God was calling me to preach the Gospel. My goal to become an owner-operator began to change as God replaced that desire with a desire to serve Him in pastoral ministries. Over the course of the next year and a half, a series of events left me unemployed. God was obviously at work! He brought me to a place of total dependence on Him (not a fun trip) and my 13-year career on the road came to an end while a new journey began.

God blessed me with a wonderful wife and two children. In the fall of 1983, we packed up and moved 350 miles to Binghamton, New York, where I began classes at Practical Bible Training School (now Davis College). Following graduation in 1987, I pastored for seven years in Chemung, New York, and then for 22 years in New Castle, Pennsylvania. After my retirement in 2016, the Lord laid transitional pastoring (interim pastor) on my heart to help churches looking for a pastor. We are finishing up our second transitional pastoral ministry serving Southern Baptist Churches. As I look back, I must say with the Apostle Paul, "But by the grace of God, I am what I am" (1 Corinthians 15:10).



Can You Guess
This Truck?



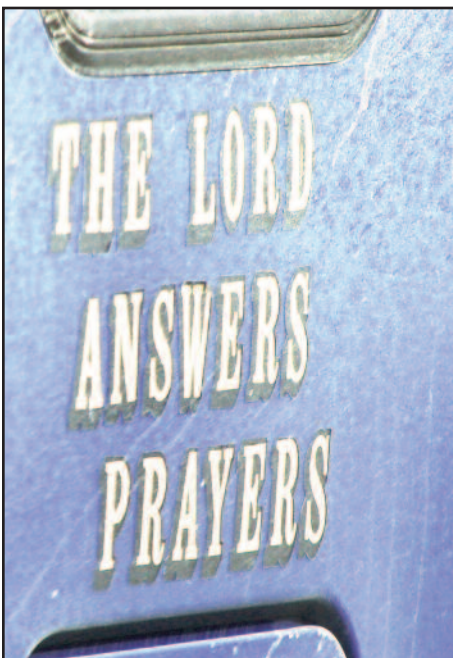
Send guess to editor@TFCGlobal.org.
Last month's truck (below) was a
Mack Jr. from the 1930s.





ROLLING T

Putting Faith





STIMULUS

Truckin' on Display



A Trucking Family's Miracle

By Donald Hollinger

On March 11, 2015, trucker Doyle Martin was on his way home to Mifflinburg, Pennsylvania, when he got a call no one ever wants to get, especially when you are far from home: his two-year-old Gardell had been found under water in a stream near their home and was not breathing.

It was the first warm day of spring, so when brothers Gary and Greg came home from school, they were excited to go out and enjoy the outdoors. Of course the two younger brothers, three-year-old Gladene and Gardell, joined their older brothers. Their mom, Rose, said she was concerned about the high water, as snow melts and heavy rains caused the stream to overflow its banks; she kept watch through the kitchen window and called out often, warning them to keep Gardell away from the water. All of a sudden Greg burst through the door in tears, saying they couldn't find Gardell. Their two older sisters ran outside hollering his name while Rose called 911. A neighbor, Randall Beachel, seeing the Martin children running along the stream, ran outside to check what was wrong. He followed

the brook and soon saw a pair of boots partially hidden by some brush. Coming closer he saw the little boy laying on his side in the middle of the rushing stream. He plunged into the stream, pulled the limp little body from a grassy underwater knoll, and ran back to the house hollering, "I found him!"

About this time an ambulance pulled up, Randall handed the boy to the paramedics, and they took off before Rose could see her little boy. Within minutes her sister and brother-in-law arrived and they sped off to the hospital. When they arrived, they learned that Gardell was being transported by Life Flight to Geisinger Medical Center in Danville, fifteen miles away.

At the hospital, Dr. Frank Maffei was notified by the ER that a toddler in full cardiac arrest was being brought in, CPR going on for more than an hour. At his arrival Dr. Maffei and his team sprang into action. Gardell's body temperature was only 77 degrees, and a resident asked at what point would they give up.



The doctor said they needed to warm him up to 90 degrees, and if he was still unresponsive, they would stop. After 8:00 PM, Dr. Maffei felt it was probably over, but he couldn't shake the notion that Gardell "was still there." They were going to try one last resort, to open his heart and warm his blood through a bypass. Before Dr. Maffei did that, he decided to do one more pulse check and was amazed that he had a pulse! After monitoring him for over an hour, he sent Gardell to the pediatric ICU.

That's when Dr. Maffei went to the waiting room to tell Rose that he was alive; but he warned her that the chances of brain damage were very high, if he woke up at all. In the meantime Rose was in contact with Doyle, and he kept asking if there was any hope. (Many people were praying—even the doctors working on him were praying!). At 12:30 AM a nurse came in saying she could finally see her boy. But Doyle had just called saying he had arrived at the hospital parking lot, so she waited for him.



"It was wonderful to see Doyle come through those doors," Rose recalls. "It felt like he brought fresh hope and courage with him. We walked to our little boy's bedside and what happened next will always be vivid in my mind. Doyle started talking to him, saying what he always did when he got home on the truck: 'Gardell, daddy came home from trucking to see you; shall we play truck?' Gardell turned his head toward Doyle and tried to open his eyes, and it seemed like he was crying. What a miraculous moment! The doctors and nurses just stood there, amazed. Dr. Maffei said, 'I wouldn't believe it if I didn't see it myself.' It seemed the more we talked to Gardell the more restless he became, so they sedated him to help him rest." Rose said they found out later that his heart started on its own at about 8:10 PM, which was the time many local churches were meeting for prayer. "Through the whole ordeal we keenly felt the power of prayer holding us up and giving us courage, even though we cried a lot!"

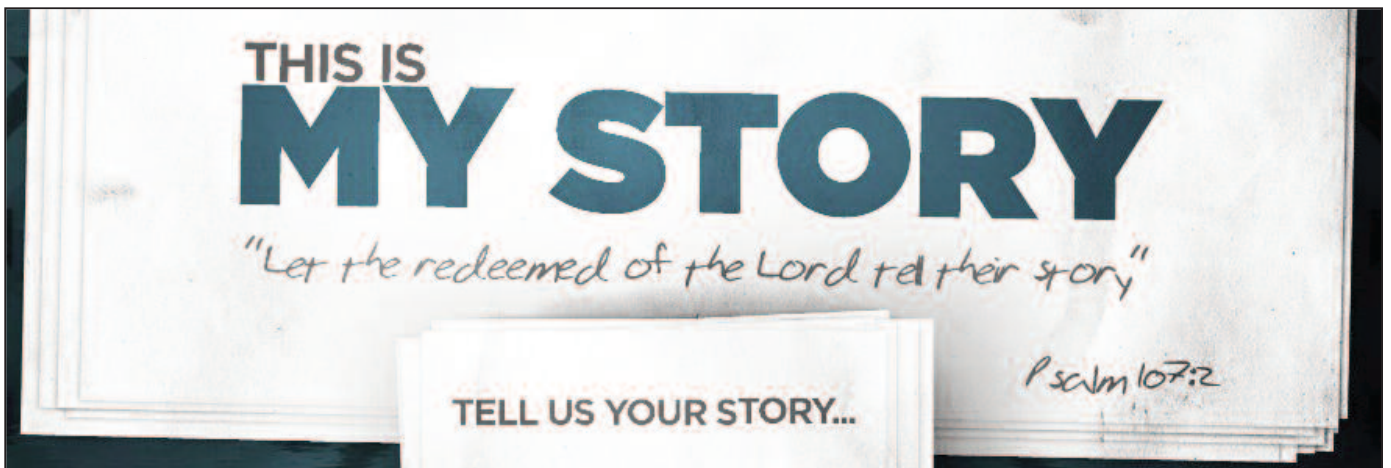
Friday was a critical day because Gardell was slowly taken off sedation. He seemed all right, so the family was told that, if he could eat on his own by Sunday morning, he would be released by noon. He did, and went home. Within a week he was walking, although a little tottery at first. "Doctors told us that Gardell had broken records for such a neurological recovery—not breathing for one hour and forty-one minutes," the family reports. "To God be the glory!"



Miracle boy Gardell is now a healthy six-year-old attending first grade.

Opposite page: Gardell (left) with little brother Galen

***Top: A healthy, smiling Gardell ready for school
Left: Doyle's truck is a frequent participant in the Pennsylvania Truck Rally.***



The Truck Driver's Daughter: "Where Have All the Miles Gone?"

In April of 2019 we lost our daddy. Daddy was a truck driver all his life; he learned to drive all sorts of vehicles as a child - literally! He was an orphan raised in a farm school in Southeastern Pennsylvania, and all the males there learned three things: God is your Father, truck/tractor driving, and farming. With these three basic staples of life, honed as a skill and woven into a work ethic and solid knowledge, success was a sure outcome.

Daddy never finished high school, for he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps right before the start of the Korean War. Daddy's military service shuttled him right into motor transport due to his ability to drive anything that rolled.

Those fortunate enough to have a veteran as a father will have at least one "war story" that is told down through generations. For us, Daddy was the driver of the rig that hauled back the crashed plane of legendary Hall of Famer and baseball great Ted Williams. Williams ejected from this plane and in time returned to baseball and went on to the Hall of Fame. Daddy too returned home, but to a career of truck driving and the raising of seven children, born in eight years, with his one and only love—our mother.

Though this career was never seen as particularly scholarly or highly recognized in the community, it was a solid career path that even today, with all our technological advances, no one can live without. It is the transported goods and food stuffs we need for our lives and homes that unifies us as a society.

Growing up we had the benefit of a mother that could stay home and be there for us in the morning and after

school. Daddy's salary and benefits, like loaves and fishes, were never too much or too little; and yet we loved, laughed, and played as a family knit together with the security of such provisions. We came home to a clean home, wash folded, and the smell of dinner cooking. Never once did we have to ask "Where's Mommy? ", for we knew Daddy's work provided enough for her to be able to stay home with us. Mommy and Daddy were a team, and truck driving provided a solid base for our home.

The long hours of driving gave Daddy the peace and tranquility to think. He thought about each and every one of us, as if each one of us were an only child. It allowed him to order the steps of his life and to count all his blessings. It also provided him with an incredible education provided by his truck radio and the many Christian songs, messages, sermons, Scriptures, and helpful tips on raising a family and sustaining a marriage. Quite the free education for one who never got his high school diploma! He had a solid work ethic, loyal wife, healthy kids, a truck radio, and his cab as a classroom.

Today, with a world full of unemployed college educated adults, there is a trending resurgence of those seeking career trades, and that includes truck driving. The reliability, lucrative advantages, and freedoms found in truck driving have made it more of an attractive career choice than ever before.

Truck driving for our family has been a life well lived and a life kept stable because Daddy and truck driving have truly been "the salt of the earth" for us.

*Donna Mengel
North Wales, PA*

Digital Cocaine: A Journey Toward iBalance

Part 1 of 5 - By Brad Huddleston

"Everything is permissible for me, but not all things are beneficial. Everything is permissible for me, but I will not be enslaved by anything [and brought under its power, allowing it to control me]."
(1 Corinthians 6:12 AMP)

The shocking headline from the October 7, 2019 edition of *USA Today* reads, "Epic Games sued for not warning parents 'Fortnight' is allegedly as addictive as cocaine." The court case came as no surprise to me. After all, I'm the author of the book and video *Digital Cocaine: A Journey Toward iBalance*. I've been beating this drum for years. Audiences all over the world watch and *listen* to my presentations with great intensity. However, being *heard*, I discovered early on is quite another matter.

I have two major hurdles when attempting to communicate that digital drugs are as addictive as their non-virtual counterparts—heroin, cocaine, alcohol, tobacco, etc. In other words, digital addiction is not a metaphor; it is a literal addiction.

First, the vast majority of parents I speak to believe they and their children are the exceptions to all the science and warnings that I present. The second obstacle I face is convincing my audiences that addiction to devices affects the brain like cocaine does. In an interview on *Yahoo! News Now*, Dr. Nicholas Kardaras, psychotherapist and addiction specialist, said: "Kids are, and again, this hypnotic trance that I call it is now being backed by research that shows that these screens are affecting [the] frontal cortex of a child's brain in exactly the same way as cocaine."¹

I should pause at this point and define *digital drugs*. Developing a dependency on technology means excessive screen time, whether it be staring at a high definition television, smartphone, tablet, electronic billboard, or computer screen. You get the idea.

Where all of this becomes tricky is defining the word *excessive*. Rarely do screen addicts tell me that they use their drug excessively. Denial is a classic hallmark of any addiction. Everyone around the dig-

ital addict can clearly see their consumption is way over the top. Still, when confronted, the tech junkie can always downplay and justify their unbridled usage, most often accompanied by irritation or anger, but sometimes with a hearty laugh.

I speak in schools all over the world, and given my topic, I often have conversations with members of IT Departments. After speaking to a group of students, one of the tech employees approached me to talk about his video gaming. He assured me that he did not have an addiction and that everything was under control. I hear this all the time. It goes something like this, "I only play a limited time each evening and possibly a little more on the weekends. I'm really careful."

After he walked away, I was approached by one of his colleagues who asked me, "Did he just tell you he limits his video gaming?" I said, "Yes." He went on to tell me that his video gaming addiction is so bad, he uses his vacation time to play video games.

An addict, regardless of the drug, rarely believes their usage is immoderate. I think the video gamer I just described was sincere. Nevertheless, those who work with him day in and day and out, those who know him, observe something entirely different.

Any honest parent of an infant, toddler, preschooler, kindergartner, adolescent, teenager, or university student will tell you that it doesn't take very long at all before screen time becomes excessive. The time it takes for mesmerization to occur can be the very moment when the eyes lock onto the screen. They are all *instantly* drawn to the glow like a moth to a flame. And over time, their personalities change, and not for the better.

- Continued on Page 14

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A child's brain is underdeveloped and, therefore, susceptible to technology's hyper-stimulating effect. The same is true for a young adult under the age of approximately 25 because even their pre-frontal cortex is still not fully developed.² That is the area of the brain that, among other things, regulates impulse control. In other words, they struggle with putting the brakes on their urges,³ and this includes screen time.

What these young people need are non-addicted adults to come along beside them and put the brakes on for them.

Houston, we have yet another major problem. Most adults are just as addicted to their technology as their children. We are now seeing multiple layers of denial in the typical nuclear home.

¹ "Glow Kids: Beware of the Screen" - YouTube video, 13:58. October 13, 2016. <https://youtu.be/MQMIOjOPsKg>, accessed Feb. 9, 2020.

² "Maturation of the teenage brain" - Mariam Arain, Maliha Haque, Lina Johal, Puja Mathur, Wynand Nel, Afsha Rais, Ranbir Sandhu, and Sushil Sharma. National Center for Biotechnology Information, US National Library of Medicine, National Institutes of Health. Published April 3, 2013. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3621648/> Accessed Feb. 10, 2020.

³ "Principles of Adolescent Substance Use Disorder Treatment: A Research-Based Guide" - National Institute on Drug Abuse, <https://www.drugabuse.gov/publications/principles-adolescent-substance-use-disorder-treatment-research-based-guide/introduction>. Accessed Feb. 10, 2020.

This article is from Brad's upcoming book, Digital Rehab: Digital Detox and Beyond. More about Brad's work can be found at bradhuddleston.com.

About the Author

Brad Huddleston is an internationally respected speaker, consultant, teacher and author on important issues such as technology and culture. He has worked with universities, schools, churches and law enforcement, and spoken to hundreds of thousands around the world on both the advantages of well-used technology tools and the dangers of the growing trend toward technology addiction.

Brad has an on-going collaboration with the Bureau of Market Research (BMR) and its Neuroscience Division at the University of South Africa. Brad has a degree in Computer Science and a Diploma of Biblical Studies and is a credentialed minister in the Acts 2 Alliance (A2A) movement in Australia. He's also a frequent guest on radio and television and author of *Digital Cocaine: A Journey Toward iBalance* and *The Dark Side of Technology: Restoring Balance in the Digital Age*.



Brad and his wife, Beth, live in the beautiful Shenandoah Valley of Virginia in the United States.

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HIGHWAY NATIONAL EVENTS & NEWS

FMCSA looks for feedback on study of crime against female, minority truckers: FMCSA has submitted a request to the White House's Office of Management and Budget to study the prevalence of harassment and assault against minority and female truck drivers. *February 28, 2020*

A Catch-22 in over-the-road access to help: Owner-operator, truckers' chaplain and life coach Clifford Petersen encountered this situation when he tried to refer an over-the-road hauler he was counseling to a licensed practitioner—it seemed next-to-impossible to find one who could offer teletherapy to local haulers when they were over the road, outside the state. *February 18, 2020*

Coronavirus risk for truckers appears minimal, though lockdown in China could impact inbound freight: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says it's currently unclear if a person can contract the new coronavirus by touching a surface or object that has the virus on it, then touching their own mouth, nose or eyes. *February 10, 2020*

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Rambler

Are You a Transformer?

Do you remember the wild interest kids once had in the character toys called Transformers that were based on adventure cartoons full of heroes and villains? They transformed from some kind of robot into a machine or animal and back again.

The family photo album is evidence to a transformation that is not reversible. I remember when Pearl put together a collection of our sons' annual school pictures. Unless we had dated the pictures, it was difficult to determine the year and grade. Sometimes distinctive features like style of haircut or glasses helped us remember. It is often difficult to see a transformation has taken place until we compare the present with the past.

The expression used to be "pictures don't lie." But with the introduction of Photoshop, one doesn't know for certain if Aunt Mabel really did have a shapely body and danced with the Rockettes or if Cousin Freddy was simply having fun on his computer. I have a picture of Tiger Woods and me together on the green posing very nicely for the camera. What's that snickering I hear? You don't believe me? Why, shame on you. I have the picture to prove it, and "pictures don't lie."

It is interesting that we all expect a baby born into this world to naturally change and become an adult. The Bible speaks of this same life process but with reference to both the physical and spiritual. Too often we speak of the new life we have in Jesus Christ (repenting of our sin and accepting the sacrifice of Jesus' life upon the cross as payment for our sin) as a transformation. That is partially true, but a process of change in a specific direction is the essence of transformation—whether negative or positive.

Is there any positive evidence indicating a transfor-

mation going on in your life? Or are you still a spiritual baby like described in Hebrews 5:12-14: "... by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you the elementary truths of God's word all over again. You need milk, not solid food! Anyone who lives on milk, being still an infant, is not acquainted with the teaching about righteousness. But solid food is for the mature..."

Are you still worldly and filled with deceit, envy, hypocrisy and slander? How do you respond if you are criticized or don't get your way? What do you do if someone slanders you? Is great knowledge of the Bible the only evidence of your transformation? Consider what the apostle Paul tells us in 2 Corinthians 3:18: "And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit."

Driver, as children, you and I worked hard, learning to do all we could to be like our parents. In the same way, a newborn Christian strives to be like his Heavenly Father. But we don't want to be a baby forever. We wish to be transformed into His likeness, being obedient to His Word.

As I look at our family photos, I see what the years have done to me, causing people to say, "He's just like his dad." I want people to be able to say the same thing about me and my Heavenly Father. That's transformation! And no photograph fools God!

How about you, driver?

This column is a reprint from March 2004.



The Best of GREEN ONION



Of Fish Stories and Other Lies

Green Onion met his driver friends, Hog Caller and Ladies Man, at a fishing store. Ladies Man started bragging that he had caught a three-foot trout. "That's nothing," said Hog Caller boastfully. "I got a prize for catching a four-foot bass." Then Green Onion said, "I've got you all beat. I brought in a five-foot northern pike and when I opened it up, it had a lamp inside with its wick still burning." "Now that's one fish story! We don't believe you," said his friends. "Well, I'll tell you what," replied Green Onion, "if you guys cut a few feet off your fish, I'll blow out my lamp."

To exaggerate a fish story is to tell an untruth, stretching an inch to make a foot. When I hear some people tell a tale, I think, "Pass the bread, because here comes the bologna." As Christians, when we don't speak the truth, the One we're really lying against is God the Holy Spirit, Who says, "Do not lie... Do not swear falsely by my name and so profane the name of your God. I am the LORD" (Leviticus 19:11-12). Jesus also said, "... for he (the devil) is a liar and the father of lies" (John 8:44). "Tell the truth and shame the devil," an old friend used to tell me.

The blue-ribbon liars of the New Testament were Ananias and his wife, Sapphira. They didn't want to lie; they just wanted the congregation's congratulations, the glory of public applause, and the reputation of being generous. After they sold a piece of property, Ananias brought part of the money to the apostles and claimed it was the full amount. Sapphira had agreed to this deception (Acts 5:1-2). Peter said, "Ananias, how is it that Satan has so filled your heart that you have lied to the Holy Spirit...?" (Acts 5:3). The Bible tells us that, upon hearing this, Ananias fell down and died. The same happened to his wife when she, coming in later, told the same lie (not knowing what had happened to her husband).

In these last days, lying has become a habit-forming addiction. God has warned us that it is an abomination and that He hates it: "Her (Jerusalem's) officials within her are like wolves tearing their prey; they shed blood and kill people to make unjust gain. Her prophets whitewash these deeds for them by false visions and lying divinations. They say, 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says' — when the LORD has not spoken" (Ezekiel 22:27-28). False teachers predict great anointings from God as they proclaim new revelations of the future. But many are just prophets for profit, denying the validity of God's moral law and commandments.

Now a word from our sponsor, the Creator of the universe: "Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they may have the right to the tree of life and may go through the gates into the city" (Revelation 22:14).

Please repent before it is too late. Get right with God. Ask for His forgiveness and believe only what He has written in His Word. Run from lies and deception and run into the arms of a holy, loving and forgiving God, Who sent His Son to die for all your sins (John 3:16, 36).

"He who testifies to these things says, 'Yes, I am coming soon.' Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. The grace of the Lord Jesus be with God's people. Amen" (Revelation 22:20-21).

Paradise was lost by the lie, and Paradise was regained by the truth, Jesus Christ. Listen to only Him in His Word.

First published in May 2004. David Roberts is Chaplain Emeritus with TFC Global.

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In the Area? Join Us at One of These Events!

Saturday, April 4, 8:30 AM (doors open 7:30 AM) ❖ Stand Firm PointMan Conference Sponsored by TFC Global: Hopewell Fellowship Christian Church, 2286 Hopewell Road, Elverson, PA; check www.pointmanministries.net/conferences for information on cost and registration.

Saturday, April 11, 7:30 AM ❖ York-Adams Chapter and ICTA host "Impact of Faith in the Workplace" Prayer Breakfast: Cross Keys Diner, 6110 York Road, New Oxford, PA; for information call 717-426-9977 or email info@TFCGlobal.org.

Saturday, April 18, 7:30 AM ❖ Lancaster Chapter Breakfast Team and ICTA host "Impact of Faith in the Workplace" Prayer Breakfast: Yoder's Restaurant, 14 South Tower Road, New Holland, PA; for information call 717-426-9977 or email info@TFCGlobal.org.

~~April 16-18~~ NEW DATE: June 4-6 ❖ TFC Global represented at Truck World 2020: Booth #2519, The International Centre, 6900 Airport Road, Mississauga, Ontario, Canada.

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04/20

Do You Know Your ABCs?

If you were to die today,
where would you spend eternity?
You can know for sure.

ADMIT YOU ARE A SINNER. "... as it is written, 'There is none righteous, not even one ... for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God'" (Romans 3:10, 23).

BELIEVE IN JESUS FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF YOUR SINS AND FOR ETERNAL LIFE. "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life" (John 3:16).

CONFESS JESUS AS YOUR SAVIOR AND LORD AND TURN FROM YOUR SINS. "... if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you shall be saved ... for 'Whoever will call upon the name of the Lord will be saved'" (Romans 10:9, 13). "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 6:23).

FIND NEW LIFE IN CHRIST

To give your life to Christ, read the "ABC" Scriptures above and pray the prayer below. Let us know about your decision.

Come to Jesus Christ today and trust in Him alone for your salvation. Pray this prayer: *"Lord Jesus, I know that I'm a sinner. I believe that You died on the cross and shed Your blood to pay the penalty for my sins. Please forgive me and come into my life. You are my Savior and Lord."*

- ☐ I now put my trust in Jesus Christ.
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