

HIGHWAY NEWS



FEATURE

Local Hero, Good's Disposal Service's
Employee John Donovan
04

A WORD FROM OUR PRESIDENT

As a Christian let me begin by asking you this. Who do you live your life for and why? For me the answer lies in the verse “For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain.” Philippians 1:21

Most people focus on the second part of the verse -- “to die is gain,” and contemplate the joys of heaven. But we should not overlook what comes before. The importance of the phrase “to live is Christ” cannot be overstated. In all honesty, this phrase should be central to every Christian’s life. Why?

Romans 11:36 says “For of Him, and through Him, and to Him, are all things: to whom be glory forever, Amen” Romans 11:36

Eventually, everyone, not just Christians will come to realize that everything in this universe is about God. (Philippians 2:9-11) He created it all, including you and me. He owns everything, including each of us. Our bodies, minds, souls and spirits are His property. Not only did He create us, but after we turned our backs on Him in the Garden of Eden and became Satan’s property, He purchased us anew with the shed blood of a suffering Christ. The declaration “For ye are bought with a price” found in I Corinthians 6:20 affirms that fact.

So why did He create us? Several scriptures give us insight into the reason for this existence. I Colossians 1:16 tells us that “For by Him were all things created, that are in heaven and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones or dominions, or principalities, or powers, all things were created by Him, and for Him. Revelation 4:11 tells us that “thou art worthy, O Lord to receive glory and honor and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.” Pretty easy to understand isn’t it. We were created for God, not for us. For His pleasure, not ours.

If we will prayerfully meditate on just these things, hopefully, we’ll realize that the truth of these verses is sufficient to cause us to glorify God by caring for his property in every way possible and refrain from contaminating our minds and bodies with the poisons that this world tries to feed us or by being involved with things which dominate our minds or bodies in a way that would not bring glory to God.

You see all believers are called “To Live for Christ.” Easy? Not really. You see as human beings, it is so easy to be dominated by things in our lives which we, either consciously or subconsciously, consider more important than God. However for me to know, to love, to follow Christ, is my glory and my joy.



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Want to read this magazine in another language? Use your favorite translation app and let us know what you enjoyed. We recommend Google Translate.



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FEATURE

JOHN DONOVAN FROM GOOD'S DISPOSAL SERVICES, EPHRATA, PENNSYLVANIA

Every now and then we encounter things that take us away from the normal day-to-day monotony. Sometimes it's a wrench in the gears and sometimes it's a gentle reminder that we are all here for a reason.

This day was just like any other for Good's Disposal truck driver John Donovan. Enjoying the warm weather of a southern Pennsylvania August afternoon, John was driving along Route 23 in New Holland, Pennsylvania when he noticed an elderly man in distress on a sidewalk. John quickly pulled his truck over to a safe location and began to rush to aid the man who was severely injured. Hastily running back to his truck to retrieve a first aid kit, John began to call for an ambulance and started to render aid to the man's wounds. The elderly man was traveling alone down the sidewalk on his mobile scooter when he hit a bump and fell off the scooter and was injured. This man was a Vietnam combat veteran who bravely and nobly served his country. Thanks to John's kindness and quick reaction he was able to provide aid and comfort to him until the first responders arrived.



When Jesus said, "Love your neighbor as yourself." He was asked to confirm what he meant by the word 'neighbor'. This is when he told the Parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37), to explain that people should love everyone, including strangers and their enemies. It is easy to love friends and family, but it is much more difficult to love those who you may not know or get along with, or even those who may harm or hurt you. To show love to strangers and your enemies is to truly love as Christ did.

We at Good's Disposal Service are thankful to have someone like John Donovan employed with us. He continues to be a model employee and is always willing to go above & beyond his duties to help his fellow colleagues as well as strangers.

Good's Disposal Services is a Pennsylvania company that's been around for more than fifty years serving Lancaster County. Founded by Gary Good and his brother Donald who partnered together in 1970. The organization prides itself in the following six values: customer care, quick response, flexibility, safety, community, integrity. TFC Global has used their dumpsters on numerous occasions and are very thankful for their services. Check out their website at www.GoodsDisposalService.com.



**Company Location in
Ephrata, Pennsylvania**

**Company Founders from Left to Right:
Ginger, Ginnie & Don**



HONOR A DRIVER; SHARE A STORY

Your truck can be our magazine cover with a feature article inside.



TESTIMONIAL

What a wonderful surprise to have our son Austin's truck on the cover of TFC Global's Highway News monthly magazine. So proud of what Kiser Trucking stands for and for all our drivers and employees.

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Kiser Trucking



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We provide 5 complementary copies of the magazine once it is printed.



DISTRIBUTION

We send 5,000 issues of the magazine around the United States, Canada, and Africa.



EMAIL OF MAGAZINE

We send the magazine digitally to a large mailing list who will see your truck and the feature article.



DIGITAL MARKETING

We use the photos and article information to post to our social media platforms.



Free & Guaranteed

By Christopher L. Scott

When I was 15 years-old I tried to spend as much time as possible at the golf course. I played golf with a lot of older men that shared their wisdom with me. I distinctly remember one man telling me to beware of two words: “free” and “guaranteed.” He told me: “Christopher, remember these two things in life: One, nothing in life is free. Two, nothing in life is guaranteed.”

He continued on and said that when you hear someone say that something is “free” there will always be a price to pay later on. There might be a request for your contact information, time involved in order to get the free thing - or the free thing might only be part of what you want, so you have to pay for the other half.

He also explained that if something is guaranteed there’s usually a catch. Often a guarantee is only good for a limited time, or you have to have the receipt, or the guarantee could be voided based on specific conditions.

That advice came to my mind as I read Paul’s introduction to his letter to the believers in the city of Corinth, “I thank my God always concerning you for the grace of God which was given you in Christ Jesus, that in everything you were enriched in Him, in all speech and all knowledge, even as the testimony concerning Christ was confirmed in you, so that you are not lacking in any gift, awaiting eagerly the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ, who will also confirm you to the end, blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, through whom you were called into fellowship with His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord” (1 Corinthians 1:4-9, NASB).

In Paul’s introduction he starts with his expression of thanks. He gives thanks because God’s gift of salvation had been given to these believers in Corinth. “the grace of God was given to you in Christ” (1 Cor 1:4b). This was a guarantee for them, “our Lord Jesus Christ, who will also confirm you to the end” (1 Cor 7:7b-8a). Notice that word “confirm” that Paul uses. It means guarantee. Paul told the Corinthians that they had God’s guarantee that they would be in Christ’s presence at His future return to the earth. The reason for this guarantee is stated in the next verse, “God is faithful” (1 Cor 1:9a).

That man I was playing golf with gave me good advice. Nothing is free and there are no guarantees. With one exception: when we place our faith in God for salvation it is a free gift offered to us. “The free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Romans 6:23b). This free gift of eternal life guarantees our place in heaven forever (Romans 8:31-39). We know that God is faithful. His offer of salvation is free and it’s guaranteed.

Scripture taken from the New American Standard Bible, Copyright The Lockman Foundation 1960, 1962, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1995. Used by permission.

Christopher L. Scott serves as senior pastor at Lakeview Missionary Church in Moses Lake, Washington. Through his writing ministry more than 250,000 copies of his articles, devotions, and tracts are distributed each month through Christian publishers. Learn more at ChristopherLynnScott.com.

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS & GIVING OPPORTUNITIES



In his latest ministry report, Dr. Norbert Mbwiliza continues to reach Tanzania, East Africa and Central Africa with the gospel, especially focusing on the truck drivers and their families. A big problem is always the lack of Bibles and getting transportation for volunteers to reach the different regions. The new organization of TFC Global Tanzania brings with it many requirements that need adjustment for ministry leaders.

There are 12 provinces in Tanzania, all of which now have a ministry coordinator. These people walk long distances on foot in hot and rainy weather. It is the desire of the office to provide some food money for these people so that they can be taken care of well. Keep praying for strength and safety for this precious team and ask God how you can give to support their needs.

The following information was shared with us:

One hundred fifty-eight drivers were reached in the regions of Tanzania, and 32 of those drivers committed their lives to Jesus Christ as their Savior.

In other areas, the drivers didn't believe that someone like this organization, TFC Global Tanzania, would care about them when no one else does.

Ninety-five drivers were reached and 19 became believers in Jesus Christ.

With the office of TFC Global Tanzania starting, they are in need of some furniture, paper/stationary plus some laptops. There is also a monthly rental fee for having an office. If God is calling you to give in this way, please send your gift to our Marietta office where it will be wired to the bank in Tanzania under the direction of Dr. Mbwiliza. Photos below are from Burundi.



MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS & GIVING OPPORTUNITIES



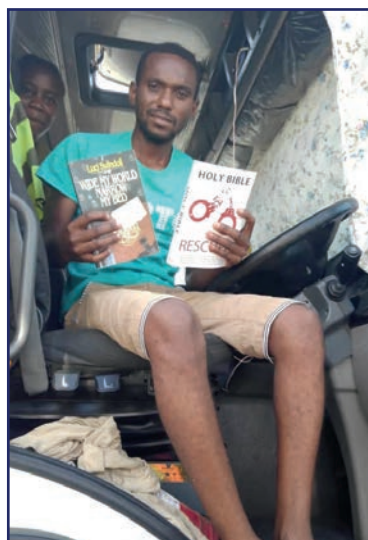
Not all ministry through TFC Global Malawi happens at border crossings and along trucking routes. Sometimes, Francis and his ministry team go to area churches and encourage believers. See the photo below. This church is near one of the outreach centers. This church would love to have some leadership and evangelism training.

As the Malawi office is being set up, there are several needs we wanted to bring to your attention. Furniture and office equipment such as a printer and phone would help Francis better coordinate his ministry team throughout the country. There are also travel expenses such as fuel, food, and transportation fees for teams of people travelling to outreach areas to serve. If the Lord is speaking to your heart about helping with any of these giving opportunities, contact our office at info@tfcglobal.org or call 717-426-9977.

The board of directors met as a team to cast vision for 2023. Some of their goals include the following:

1. Reaching 35,000 truck drivers with the gospel
2. Recruit 14 district coordinators for the different areas in Malawi
3. Those coordinators would recruit a total of 3,000 trained team members
4. Start a tailoring school for the wives of truck drivers to learn a trade
5. Develop a partnership with a local printing and publishing company to produce materials

The latest report from Francis Chipukunya has his team distributing a lot of Bibles and printed materials that share the gospel in English and Portuguese. They have also conducted 2 training sessions using the TFC Global program and curriculum that has been adapted for Africa. A generous donor's contribution allowed a bicycle to be purchased for ministry use. See photo.



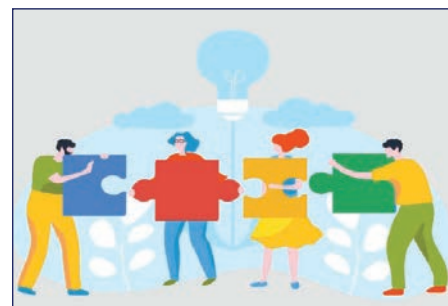
TFC GLOBAL NEEDS YOU START A CHAPTER WHEREVER YOU ARE

Do you have a heart for the professional drivers who travel our highways and for the trucking industry? Have you ever wondered how you or your church might partner together with TFC Global strategically for the cause of Christ in your area? Maybe TFC Global has had an impact on your life by leading you to the Lord or has been a source of discipleship while on the road as a new believer. Maybe you have family members who are in the trucking industry. Here is a great way you can help.

Apply to TFC Global to start a **REGIONAL CHAPTER**. A chapter is a group of people meeting together regularly with the purpose of supporting the ministry of TFC Global financially and in prayer. Many individuals and small groups across North America have shown an interest in and support for the ministry of TFC Global but feel they have no opportunity to become more directly involved in the ministry. TFC Global regional chapters can form and function anywhere people are interested in ministry. These chapters help raise support for this ministry to help us establish a chaplain's potential impact, and they work with a staff chaplain to support that chaplain's ministry or the ministry in general. They help fight human trafficking through our Gateway To Freedom Foundation, and help drivers battle addictions such as pornography and alcoholism.

TFC Global chapters are committed to being a tool for God's provisions to His ministry through such things as upholding TFC Global in prayer, providing ministry to local drivers, volunteering at a local TFC Global ministry center, passing out TFC Global materials to trucking companies, holding fundraising events or anything else that helps promote and support the ministry of TFC Global locally, nationally and Internationally.

Regional chapters can also help raise funds for our International Ministries outreach. There is an urgent need to share the gospel with thousands of ethnic groups who have never heard it. Roman 15:20 "Yea, so have I strived to preach the gospel, not where Christ was named, lest I should build upon another man's foundation. I Cor. 15:34 "Awake to righteousness, for some have not the knowledge of God: I speak this to your shame." You can make a difference. Join us in this important work.



**JOIN ICTA: BECOME PART OF A
COMMUNITY THAT LOVES THE LORD
AND SUPPORTS EACH OTHER.**



TFC Global has become increasingly aware that our brothers and sisters in Christ who are commercial drivers and those who are part of the trucking industry, along with their families, have a strong need and desire to build biblical community among their peers. In today's current environment, it's not unusual for new drivers that work for the same company to not ever speak to any other drivers at the company. There's no time for a friendly smile, helping a fellow trucker or motorist in need. It's a thing of the past. The International Christian Trucking Association (ICTA) wants to change this. We want to bring back the sense of brotherhood among the Christian drivers in the way we corporately come together to battle the issues of human trafficking, chemical and physical addiction, depression, as well as divorce and marriage issues. At TFC Global, some of our locations host monthly breakfasts to talk about what's happening in the trucking community. Our desire is to connect commercial drivers, retired professional drivers, trucking company owners, and other Christian trucking-related individuals in supporting and encouraging one another. I once had a commercial driver tell me that he did not go to college so the trucking community was his fraternity. If there is going to be a movement of God in the trucking industry, it will begin with the Christian drivers and owners coming together to pray for this industry.

For more information on membership, visit our website at www.TFCGlobal.org and click on the ICTA section of the home page. Scan the QR code to give a financial gift in support of the ICTA and its mission.



Chaplain's Corner

By Craig Maart



TRAINING CHAPLAINS

It is always better to be prepared for a situation before it happens. The situations TFC Global chaplains face on a daily basis vary greatly. You never know what will happen from day to day. Since TFC Global chaplains serve in trucking companies, FaithLife Centers at truck stops, and in a variety of other settings, circumstances can vary greatly. We need to be prepared for being at the scene of an accident, hospital visits, providing resources to people in need, counseling for a wide variety of life issues and ready to serve at a moment's notice.

This is why TFC Global chaplains are required to be trained for service. TFC Global provides training backed by Chaplains International. Chaplains International is a nationally known and recognized chaplains training agency. Every TFC Global chaplain takes the 20 hour intensive CTI (Chaplains Training Institute) over the course of three days as well as monthly meetings and other training options throughout the year. Training is always being pursued.



Training topics for the training vary from emergency situations and protocols, confidentiality and ethics, dealing with suicide, death notifications, biblically-based counseling, the biblical process of change, trauma and stress reactions in children, grief and healing conversations. This training is extensive and very beneficial right away. In 2021 we trained 3 men for chaplaincy services; in October 2022, we trained five men. One of these men are not serving with TFC but wanted to take the training as they pursue what God is directing them to do. Training is open to anyone, even if they are not going to serve with TFC Global.

TFC Global also has chaplain associates who volunteer their time to serve under a staff chaplain. These associates receive training from the staff chaplain or with me in my role as VP of US Operations.



I hope this helps you see how much goes into providing chaplaincy to the trucking community. There will always be dependency on the Holy Spirit and prayer in advance of each day. This is a great training program to help stay freshly skilled in approaching and serving people throughout each day. Please keep our chaplains in prayer. Does this sound like something for you or someone you know? If so, contact me at craigm@tfcglobal.org and let's talk chaplaincy to the trucking community.

TFC GLOBAL: FIGHTING THE SPIRITUAL BATTLE AND LIVES OF THE PEOPLE IN THE TRUCKING COMMUNITY

Why is the development of a chaplaincy program to the trucking community that includes caring for the needs of our professional drivers and their families so important?



Physical care because:

- * Unhealthy habits due to long hours on the road
- * Work environment is characterized by the fast pace, irregular sleep patterns, extreme time pressure, lack of exercise

Psychological/Behavioral care because:

- * Heavy workloads can cause the following: increased fatigue, diminished cognitive ability.
- * High levels of stress can cause the following: increased anxiety, extremely high blood pressure.

Spiritual care because:

- * There is an openness to faith topics when traveling
- * Religion is often used to increase physical health
- * Religion can change one's outlook and perspective
- * Religion is often related to greater marital satisfaction



TFC Global provides an integrated, holistic, and professional approach to care through our network of corporate chaplains. We offer services from several hours to a full day of service plus the cost of travel. Care is priced dependent on the company's size.

There are many benefits to this program. Check out the list below:

- * Increased coping skills
- * Improved stability at home and work
- * Improved ability to regulate emotions and food intake
- * Reduced stress-related issues
- * More content and reliable employees with lower turnover

TFC Global also offers additional programs

- * Celebrate Recovery Step 1
- * Human Trafficking Awareness training
- * Pornography Awareness
- * International Christian Trucking Association (ICTA)
- * Talk & Prayer (TAP) meetings available for churches

Would you consider hosting an ICTA or TAP event at your church or company? Would you also think about inviting a chaplain to your church, school, company orientation, young men/women's groups? For more information, contact us at info@tfcglobal.org

GLE FOR THE HEARTS TRUCKING COMMUNITY

ing for the physical, psychological and spiritual

oad

ollowing: poor access to health care, erratic schedules, disrupted
of support systems.

urnout, anxiety, depression, sexual addictions, substance abuse,

g: hypertension, stroke, premature aging, myocardial infarction,

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nealing and well-being.

spective from negative to positive, increasing purpose and focus.

and family stability, more productive employees, and less turnover.



professional care program catered to your company's needs

ffer a custom system of supporting your employees offering

added benefit of being on-call for emergent issues. This level of

t the following:

choices

r turnover

for the trucking community and corporate environment.

p meetings helpful in overcoming addictive behavior

nder the Gateway to Freedom Foundation's direction

aphy addiction intensive through a weekend retreat

ssociation (ICTA) meetings available for networking

or women passionate about the trucking community

ng our human trafficking expert to speak at your church,

rg or call our office at 717-426-9977.





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Find Out More

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You know the important work that TFC Global does. You understand that while some organizations are treating the symptoms of a broken world—sexual violence, divorce, fatherlessness, addiction, greed, and suicide—we are called to bring healing at the root-cause level.

As an investor in this important work, we invite you to take the long view along with us. Through your prayerful, planned giving to the work God is doing through TFC Global, you're building the kingdom of God and a legacy of changed lives.

In our **Planned Giving Options** below, to see a variety of wise, innovative ways for you to give. Thank you for making a difference in the lives of the men and women of the trucking community, their families, and the trucking community that will last not only long into the future, but for eternity.

- * Stocks and bonds
- * Real estate
- * Retirement Assets
- * Insurance benefits

Our faith partners support us financially because they support our vision — support it because they know a driver, are a driver themselves or own a trucking company — support it because God has called them to give.

For more information email info@tfcglobal.org or call our office at 717-426-9977.

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- **Named Sponsor:** primary organization/individual for the entire program
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- **Timed spots** of 15, 20, or 60 seconds that are pre-recorded and air during the program.

If you are interested in any of these sponsorship opportunities, email info@tfcglobal.org for more information.

CERTIFIED CHAPLAINCY TRAINING

If you're looking for an opportunity to prepare you for the work of chaplaincy, we can help you to achieve that goal. Regardless of your industry, the principles of our training program apply and will help you navigate the waters of the industry where you are ministering. At CTI, we offer a comprehensive yet stimulating training program that will help you to become **acquainted with the world of Christian chaplaincy at a cost much less than other comparable training programs.** As a student, you will explore the theoretical and operational components of chaplaincy while learning from experienced chaplains with real-world experience. Students will learn the basics of Christian counseling while learning **how to read body language (Para-Linguistic communication) to reveal what a person is thinking in times of despair.** Students will learn communication techniques that are useful when dealing with police, prison, and other emergency services personnel and avoid the pitfalls that get a chaplain fired due to a lack of experience and much more. **Upon completing the 20-hour program, you will receive a beautiful certificate of certification (BCC) suitable for framing.**

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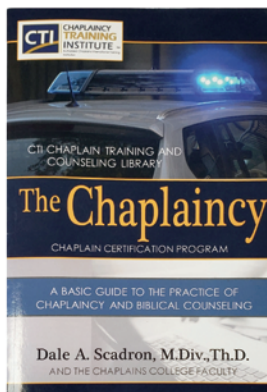


Chaplain Ron Fraser
President/CEO
TFC Global

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YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF PEOPLE BY TRAINING TO BECOME A CHAPLAIN IN YOUR COMMUNITY. AT CTI WE CAN HELP.
Contact our office at info@tfcglobal.org or call 717-426-9977.



Course cost of \$400 is all-inclusive: application fee, training manual, in-person training, lodging, meals at the training facility, and processing to become credentialed with Chaplains International and their network of chaplains. Those seeking to serve with TFC Global will have additional orientation training.

SIGN UP TODAY! Next class is May 7-11, 2023.

IT'S **EASY!** IT'S **AFFORDABLE!**

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Along with information about the trucking industry and faith-filled articles for everyone, the *Highway News* will share the good news of Jesus in your community.

Where can **YOU** share the
HIGHWAY NEWS
magazine?

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- * Gift to retirement communities
- * Leave with the sick or homebound
- * Share with Bible study groups
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Email: info@tfcglobal.org; Phone: 717-426-9977



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DECEMBER 2022
Volume 60 | Number 12

FEATURE: Read about the Smith family and Truckers4Hope where passion and cause collide. 04

HIGHWAY NEWS



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A NEW BROTHERHOOD

One of the biggest challenges our chaplains see in the trucking community is loneliness. There is no way around it, life on the road is lonely; and no matter how well-adapted a driver is too long distance hauls, long hours on the open road takes a toll. There are a variety of ways professional drivers cope with the loneliness. The radio, podcasts, regular calls home or to trusted friends, finding community at truck stops or travel plazas, and more. However, there is also an ever present dark side to loneliness as well; addiction.

In recovery programs it's commonly understood that any type of addictive behavior feeds off of loneliness. A good friend of mine, Dan Wobschall, often says, "the opposite of addiction is not sobriety, its community." Dan has been helping men break free from pornography or other unwanted sexual behavior for over 6 years. He knows from experience.

So one of the best practices to fight addictive behavior, like pornography, is community. That is why the Gateway to Freedom Foundation invites people battling pornography or other unwanted sexual behavior into community. And let me tell you there are few things more exciting. There is a brotherhood that forms in recovery that is so powerful and life giving. Men that join the brotherhood find that the community is a lot bigger than they thought. More welcoming too.

The last Gateway to Freedom 3-day workshop I attended was so powerful because of the bond that was formed among us men. And that bond didn't end after the 3-days was over. We have each other's back.

So don't go it alone any longer. At Gateway to Freedom Foundation you can join a new brotherhood of support and encouragement. Men who have been down the same road as you, know all the challenges, and can help.

The next GTF 3-day workshop is April 21-23, 2023 at the Tuscarora Inn and Conference center in Mt. Bethel, PA. You can also join our private online community called Live Free. Contact us at gateway@tfcglobal.org to learn more. Your new brotherhood awaits.





Never A Straight Line

Radical Road Blog

by Jess Pealer

Guest Blogger for Kelly Mack McCoy

Calling myself a bougie girl got a laugh out of Nate and Janene when we sat down with them for the interview at the steakhouse. But as I said earlier, my bougieness was about to be put to the test when it came time to join Matt in his truck upon the completion of his training. God was about to do a work on me in that area. And it's a good thing I spent that time in deep dive prayer while Matt was on the road with his trainers. As expected, Matt picked up the skills needed for his new job in no time. Without my prayer time, I don't know if I would have been prepared for what was to come in such a short period of time. Let me give you a little background so you may understand more why this life was such a radical change for me. Not to sound like a snob, but I had seen the finer side of life and I rather enjoyed that time. The quote attributed to Sophie Tucker, among others resonated with me: "I've been rich and I've been poor. Rich is better." Sophie Tucker was a popular entertainer during the first half of the twentieth century who was known as "The Last of the Red-Hot Mamas."

I wasn't rich before, or I wouldn't be calling myself a bougie girl. Bougie, as the word is usually applied, means someone who aspires to be a higher class than they are. The term comes from bourgeois, the word used by communists to describe despised middle- or upper-class people. That was me – a middle class country girl from a family in the American heartland. Of course, my family life wasn't always as nice as it appeared on the outside. But my background provided the fertile ground in which God would plant an entrepreneurial spirit in me from an early age. I'm very grateful for that. So, I wasn't rich, but I did want to achieve all that God had for me. And I didn't consider myself a red-hot mama, either. I just liked to dress for success. During my career as a hairstylist, I would fly off to New York City with the jetsetters to attend elite atelier workshops and stay at the best hotels the Big Apple had to offer. That was me - the bougie girl.

Our new accommodations were not going to be anything like the best of the Big Apple, but we would nevertheless be riding in style on the road. After all, the truck King Bros. provided for us was a brand-new top-of-the-line Peterbilt 389 painted crimson red – just like in the vision God had given me. That's a trucker's dream, and here we were going to be able to drive that beauty right out of the gate. Or so I thought. God had other plans and needed to do a little work to prepare me for The Radical Road journey.

When Matt pulled into the yard at the end of his final training run, I was on cloud nine. We were finally going to get started on The Radical Road journey - together. Even though I had been busy with preparation for our first trip and the road ahead as well as all the catching up with my family, I had missed Matt immensely. And I knew he missed me. We are best friends and go everywhere together. King Bros. had a load to Idaho lined up for us. But the truck we would come to know and love and call Crimson Creed was not ready yet. Instead of that beautiful 2023 Peterbilt we would make the trip in Big Blue.

God was about to wring out the last bit of pride from this bougie girl like He was cleaning a dirty old washcloth to prepare me for the journey. The fact that Matt and I are very close to one another took on a whole new meaning when we tried to sleep cheek to jowl in the sleeper in Big Blue. Nate said he would pay for us to stay in a motel each night of the week-long trip to Idaho and back. But he had been so kind in providing the new truck for us and in supporting our ministry in any other way he could that we didn't want him to have to pay the extra expense. But after a few sleepless nights packed like sardines in that tin can sleeper we felt we had to stay at motels for the rest of the trip. It was a safety issue. Matt had to get some sleep to drive safely on those crazy roads we had to travel. Not to mention I needed sleep as well to help put together the pieces for The Radical Road. There was a podcast to start, a website in development, and merchandise being created to help support our ministry.

The motels available for us to stay in were not much of a step up from our accommodations in Big Blue. Choices are limited for truck drivers due the size of their rigs. Matt and I both came from places where we had much and were brought low to experience firsthand the struggles people face regardless of which rung they are currently on in the ladder of life.

Did I mention God had other plans? I had the opportunity to experience with Matt some of the challenges faced by truckers every day. I especially, needed more refining to prepare me for whatever was ahead on The Radical Road. We had taken this little detour for a reason.

After all, life is never a straight line.



Rebecca Jowers, president and executive director of the Poiema Foundation first learned about the injustice of human trafficking as a graduate student at Dallas Theological Seminary. After that initial exposure, she began to extensively research the problem and was alarmed to discover it was happening in her small community, a suburb east of Dallas. As a mother of four daughters and a survivor of sexual abuse, her heart was broken for trafficked children who have no voice. Being a former educator, she began teaching Human Trafficking 101 to anyone who would listen. It was not long before people began reaching out requesting help for victims who were rescued. Local resources were not available.

Following much prayer, pastoral counseling, and support from her family, Poiema, a faith-based organization, was founded with the vision of opening a long-term, trauma-informed residential program. Shortly after sharing her vision, a home, fully paid for and fully furnished was donated. Humble beginnings have led to great opportunities through faith and provision.

The name, Poiema, is the Greek word that means “handiwork.” Ephesians 2:10 says, “We are God’s handiwork (poiema) created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.” Their vision is a world where sexual abuse and exploitation are not tolerated. We also envision a world where the sexually abused are restored to be all that God created them to be as His “poiema.”

The foundation has three core initiatives:

1. Educating the public about the dangers of human trafficking. Staff and volunteers taught at universities, healthcare facilities, churches, and other locations.
2. Engaging communities to help identify trafficking victims within their community. Efforts reach beyond the Dallas area to other Texas cities and South Carolina. They work with a Poster Outreach event that spreads posters of missing minors to hotel attendees, gas stations and truck stops. Over 300 children have been rescued through this event.
3. Empower survivors through the Poiema Safe House. This is a place where victims can recover and get the help they need.

For more information on the Poiema Foundation visit their website at www.poiemafoundation.org.

TruckStruck

By Lynn Bolster

GET IT BACK, PART 2

As we learned last month, vehicle repo work is like a box of chocolates, you never know what you're gonna get - crazy excuses, wild goose chases, lies, lies and more lies!

Late one afternoon Bill and I were sent to load in Baltimore City. When we arrived, we were told there was a wait until forklift guy was free. Nothing new there so we started getting out our straps and tarps. When done, we wandered around the yard. Being junk people, we were always on the lookout for odds and ends that companies were ready to dispose of but may not have a plan as to how just yet. Junkman to the rescue! Items like these were either scrap or vehicles of some kind or another. We would set up a return time to load them.

We noticed a pole building with the door up so we went in. Something caught our eye back in the corner in the dark. The closer we got the more familiar it became. It was a truck, it was blue and it was ours! The old GMC Astro cabover sat there looking back at us as we stared at each other in astonishment. "This can't be, do you see what I see?" Bill said. I did, thinking how often does your repo come to you? He sold this truck about a year ago to Joe, who had hit tough times but needed work. Payments were scarce, we had to babysit him to get the money, and then payments just stopped. No one had seen the truck around or knew its whereabouts.

We went to the office to ask questions. It had been there about 6 months and was being used as the yard jockey truck. No need for a tag or proof of ownership since it didn't go out on the road and the fellow who owned it worked there. Then who walked into the office but Joe! Bill blasted him for not paying and hiding the truck. I had to watch that Bill wasn't reaching up to 'throw his glasses' as he put it, which was his way of saying he was getting ready to belt the guy. (Have you noticed Bill was a hot head?) The business owner walked in when he heard all the commotion. "What seems to be the problem here?" Bill angrily recounted the situation. Owner looked at Joe and said, "is this true?" Joe stammered trying to defend himself around all the lies he had told. He thought he did nothing wrong selling it to his boss forgetting that it wasn't his to sell. Owner came down on Joe and was upset that he was duped into buying what was now a hot truck. We called the law and when they arrived we told them we could produce the title but needed a ride to get it.

As owner bit his lip in frustration, he revealed he already paid Joe for the truck. Joe confirmed this and said he had spent the money so he couldn't pay owner back. Owner now had one of two choices:

1. Fire Joe, lose the truck to us as a repo or pay us
2. Keep him on to pay off the truck through a payroll deduction

since he had to pay us to retain it. Owner realized they needed a jockey truck no matter what and had to face reality.

By now, forklift guy was ready to load us so Bill went to the truck while the police took me to pick up the title. Upon return to owner's office, I produced the title and we waited for him to pay up. The annoyance he felt was obvious seeing his hand as it shook while writing the check. He tore it out of the register, handed it to Bill and said, "I hate paying for things twice."

After that, I constructed an iron-clad contract that our attorney blessed that we titled the 'Hambone Contract.' Hambone was a friend who bought a truck from Bill and the first one to be held accountable under the directives of the new contract. From then on, we could sleep at night. A handshake didn't cut it anymore.

Bill liked helping others make their truck owning dreams come true. Before helping out, on one side we weighed the trust and honesty of the borrower and on the other side, their character. It helped if they had a job, work ethic and a contract or two to keep the truck busy.

Face it - we all have debt of some kind. It has been said "there are three kinds of people: the haves, the have-nots, and the have-not-paid-for-what-they-haves." Which are you?



Lynn Bolster loves anything to do with trucks and has been active in the trucking industry since the 1980s. She drove over the road for 12 years with her now deceased partner of 22 years, Bill. She has her Bachelor's degree in Journalism and a Master's degree in Recreational and Leisure Studies Management with a focus on health and fitness. Her Master's thesis was: "The Recreational Pursuits and Health Habits of Long Distance Truckers." She has appeared in The Washington Post, USA Today and has written for various trucking industry publications. She was the sales manager covering three truck stops for several years. Lynn is on the Board of Directors for TFC Global.



Trucking with Women in Mind

By Ellen Voie, President & CEO, Women in Trucking

SIX CHARACTERISTICS OF MENTAL TOUGHNESS

Building mentally tough teams requires mentally tough employees. In Caliper's latest whitepaper, the Women in Trucking research team defines the psychological advantage of six essential personality traits that make up mental toughness. And while some people are more naturally inclined to possess these traits, mental toughness is also a skill that can be developed by honing in on these key characteristics and building upon them over time. Sharpening your team's skill sets can improve their performance and outcomes in the workplace, so let's dig into the six personality traits associated with mental toughness. We'll use our research to show you how to spot mental toughness in your employees and how to further develop these traits on your team.

1. Level-headedness

"A measure of emotional expressivity, [level-headedness] relates to the tendency to effectively manage the expression of one's emotions. Individuals who manifest higher levels tend to remain composed in a variety of stress-inducing situations. Those who score lower tend to react more emotionally." You know the saying "cool heads prevail?" When it comes to high-performing teams, it's true. The employees on your teams must possess level-headedness to ensure the long-term success of the organization. So, how do you know if your team members have it? When the going gets tough, look for those who remain composed and can stabilize their emotions and reactions. They will continue to work towards solving the issues and not let downfalls blind them with emotions. Not everyone on your team will have this in high levels, and that's okay. You can help other employees develop compensating behaviors by teaching and practicing different habits and techniques. Emphasize to your employees how important it is for them to stay calm, especially around other employees who may be more emotionally expressive. Showing your employees the long-term benefits of managing their emotions at work will not only benefit your bottom line, but it will also help their careers grow in a healthy manner.

2. Stress tolerance

"A measure of the capacity to remain unworried about possible negative consequences. Those showing high scores may remain unconcerned when faced with events beyond their control. People displaying low scores tend to focus on what might go wrong or potential negative consequences before moving to action." All employees experience stress at some point, especially when things get busy or timelines get tight. During that time, you'll notice that the employees who can maintain a cool, calm, and collected mindset will focus on the task at hand and worry less than their counterparts. Stress can make some individuals single-minded, making negatives seem catastrophic. This can make employees frustrated and disengaged.

Here are some tips to help you develop those who show a lower tolerance for stressful situations:

1. Help them find the silver lining when they're overwhelmed and coach them on how to continue this practice for themselves. Once they've discovered the positive, help them create a plan to move forward. Often, stressed employees are just suffering from work paralysis, which can in turn cause more stress.
2. Keep an optimistic attitude yourself. Lead by example, and you will be able to better coach your team in maintaining positivity in stressful situations when things get chaotic.
3. Look for new opportunities that recurring issues reveal. That might come in the form of gaps in efficiency or the need for improved communication methods. An employee who always struggles at the end of the month due to poor reporting may need technology support or better time management from her team to avoid this in the future.

Coaching and reinforcing these strategies with your employees will help them learn to manage their stress levels when they start to feel overwhelmed. Practicing and maintaining a level of calmness in the face of negative pressures will allow employees to develop endurance towards stress in the future.

Blog post written by Aggie Alvarez. See the rest of this article in the March issue.



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*If you were to die today, where would you spend eternity?
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- A. Admit you are a sinner. "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23).*
- B. Believe in Jesus for the forgiveness of your sins and for eternal life. "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life" (John 3:16).*
- C. Confess Jesus as your Savior and Lord, and turn from your sins. "If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved" (Romans 10:9).*

To give your life to Christ, pray the prayer below.

"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."

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