

DECEMBER 2023
Volume 69 | Number 12

HIGHWAY NEWS



A TFC GLOBAL PUBLICATION
WWW.TFCGLOBAL.ORG

A WORD FROM OUR PRESIDENT

THE GRACE OF GOD

Matthew 11 28-30 says, “Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

What does this mean? It means to walk with Jesus, work with Him, and learn from Him. It refers to living freely and abundantly, without being burdened by heavy or ill-fitting expectations. It is about keeping company with Jesus and learning to live out of His abundance. It is in contrast to the struggle and strain found in self-effort.

“Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Jesus is saying come to me. Get away with me, and you’ll recover your life. I’ll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with me and work with me, watch how I do it. Learn about God’s grace and what that means for you. He said “I won’t lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with me and you’ll learn to live freely and lightly.”

Do you feel as though you are trapped on a never-ending treadmill based on your own efforts to try to earn God’s forgiveness, God’s approval, and God’s acceptance? That is based on “legalistic religion not relationship.”

If you are trying to earn your own forgiveness and thinking that God is constantly mad at you, I am here to tell you that is not the heart of God. When Jesus spoke of these words He was referring to the fact that there is an ease and enjoyment when you walk in His grace. This is in contrast to the struggle and strain found in self-effort. There is such rest when you know there is nothing you can do to earn His forgiveness.

Give up on your own self-righteousness, which the Bible describes as “filthy rags” (Isa. 64:6), and with open arms and an open heart, receive His forgiveness!

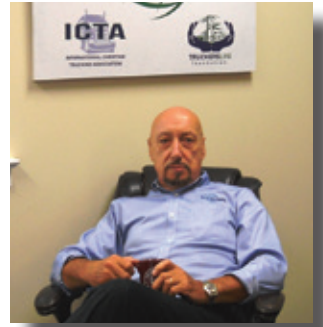
The key to getting out of a cycle of sin and defeat is to receive Him and to stop beating yourself up. Receive Him and stop punishing yourself because your sins have already been punished on the body of another. His name is Jesus, our beautiful Lord and Savior. No wonder the gospel is called the “good news”.

When you understand God’s grace and forgiveness, you will understand the difference between obligation and relationship. Under the old covenant of the law, right living is done out of religious obligation. Under the new covenant of grace, everything we do today is birthed out of an inward motivation that flows directly from a love relationship with Jesus.

God is not a legalist. He doesn’t want you to read His Word just because He said so, as a religious obligation. He wants you to experience His love and spend time in His Word because you want to enjoy His sweet presence.

You can read His Word out of legalism and to try to earn God’s forgiveness and acceptance, or you can do it out of relationship because you know you have been forgiven. The reality is, when you don’t read the Bible, you should not be feeling guilty; you should be feeling hungry.

Jesus invites you to keep company with Him, and you’ll learn to live freely and abundantly because you have come to understand the true meaning of God’s grace, having experienced it in your own life.



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*Highway News (ISSN1077-0267) is published monthly by TFC
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Deposit Photo ID 489769486

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Igor Smits



**Serving the Trucking Community for over 70 years
and recently awarded the Platinum Seal from
Guidestar Candid**

JAMES GERMAK



In a recent unexpected death, the trucking community lost a kind and wonderful member in Jim Germak. Jim always wanted to be a truck driver. He started his trucking career at 18 years old. By the time he was 23, Jim had purchased an F-model Mack and flatbed trailer. He worked as an owner operator hauling building products and steel.

In 1976, he married his wife Linda, and in 1982, they started their new business -- JAGTRUX, INC., a contract/common carrier. From its small beginnings, Jagtrux, Inc. has grown into a successful 75-acre enterprise, including a maintenance shop, offices, cross dock facilities, and secure trailer storage lots.

Jagtrux has always thrived on solving the customer's unique needs through innovative means. They were the first carrier to introduce the curtain-sided van concept on the east coast, as well as the first truck to test load it out of the Armstrong World Industries facility in Marietta, Pennsylvania. They also became one of the first carriers to use 102 inch wide vans and to require all trucks, owned and leased, to carry a pallet jack at all times to assist customers in the unloading process.

Jagtrux, Inc. believes that the core component of our business is relationships. They have a dedicated group of employees and permanently leased independent contractors that contribute to their daily successes. They also have a network of strong business relationships. Building strong relationships allows them to deliver the best results for their customers. Relationships have enabled Jagtrux to become an elite carrier throughout Pennsylvania and the northeast for nearly 40 years.

Jim is also the founding partner of the Marietta auction company called Hess Auctioneers. His community involvement also includes being a board member for the PMTA (Pennsylvania Motor Truck Association).

Jagtrux, inc.

CONTRACT/COMMON CARRIER

Acknowledgement from the Doris and Cerwin High, former regional director and staff communications director:

“Jim was a faithful and long-time board member of Transport For Christ and always a helpful friend to Cerwin when there were needs in chapel construction. Cerwin said he may have donated more than a dozen trailers for chapel construction. He donated fuel for our display trailer travels and chapel deliveries. If there was a snow storm when Cerwin could not get to the office, he called Jim and one of his sons were soon at the office to do the snow removal. In summary, it would be difficult to find a more generous and faithful supporter of Transport For Christ now TFC Global during the years Cerwin was involved in chapel construction.”

Acknowledgement from a neighbor of the Germaks:

My kids enjoyed spending time at the small body of water on the Germak property to fish and just generally be boys. Jim would come to say hello and check in on them, letting them grow up outdoors and in nature. I am so thankful for the relationship my boys had with him. Jim will be missed.

Acknowledgement from Ron Fraser, President of TFC GLOBAL:

My interaction with Jim Germack at TFC was a brief one. But in that short period of time I found him to be a man of his word and a man with a heart of gold. When we serve Christ, there are undeniable qualities that begin to arise in us. Some of these qualities are love, loyalty, humility, and servanthood. All of these were qualities that Jim possessed. His love for his Savior and for his family was evident in everything he did. It has been said of TFC Global that today we can see farther because we stand on the shoulders of giants of the faith. These giants are not only the people who have laid the ground work for the ministry over the years. These giants are people like Jim who prayed for the ministry, gave of their time to the ministry, and gave generously to this ministry. He is loved and will be greatly missed by us all.





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GOING THE EXTRA MILE

If you had to pick one profession that has the best chance to end sex trafficking, what profession would you pick? Would it be law enforcement? Criminal law? Federal and state governments? Those are logical choices and they certainly have an important role to play in combatting sex trafficking. However, I would argue that trucking has just as an important role to play, and even greater potential to end sex trafficking than either of the other three.

It is a well known fact among pimps and traffickers around the world that the trucking profession provides a sizable, profitable and reliable customer base. Pimps are known to specifically target truck stops, rest areas and other trucking locations as a good place to do business. Although I am not aware of exact estimates, it is safe to say, based on the pimps behavior, that the professional driver is a key demographic of the buyer demand, quite possibly to the point where pimps and traffickers rely on their money.

So, what would happen to the business of sex trafficking, if the driver stopped paying for sex? It would be catastrophic. Just imagine how any industry would survive if they lost one of their largest consumer bases. For example, imagine if teen boys and young adult men (18-34 yrs old), which make up the largest consumer base of energy drinks, stopped buying energy drinks. Would it create a crisis within the industry? Absolutely! Many companies would go out of business and the rest would be forced to drastically reduce their operations. A similar fate would befall sex traffickers, if the professional driver stopped paying for sex. Many traffickers would go out of business and the others would be forced to reduce their operations. Ultimately that would lead to a drastic reduction of victims being exploited.

This is why TFC Global created the Gateway to Freedom Foundation with a focus of educating the professional driver and company about demand reduction. As it turns out many trucking companies are educating their drivers about how to identify human trafficking and what to do if they see it, but they are not educating them about the harms of consumer sex and how it fuels sex trafficking. Trucking companies can go the extra mile in the fight against sex trafficking by partnering with the Gateway to Freedom Foundation to educate their drivers about consumer sex, and providing resources to help them get free. If you are a professional driver and you would like to learn more about demand reduction within the industry, please contact the Gateway to Freedom Foundation at gateway@tfcglobal.org.



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For all of your media needs, check out Tango3Media. You can reach Thomas Kelley at tkelley@tncradio.live.

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS & GIVING OPPORTUNITIES



From Adriaan Fourie, the African Ministries Director, reporting on highlights from October, 2023

Dear Friends, thank you for the opportunity to share some news from the TFC trucking ministry regions in Africa. We greet you in the wonderful name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on behalf of fellow ministers/chaplains serving in Tanzania, Kenya, Burundi, DRC, and Malawi.

From **KENYA** (Part of the Tanzania Region) we have a dear lady by the name of Precious Tunu Lameck who told us about serving truck drivers: Through exposure to serving truck drivers via Dr. Norbert in Tanzania, this lady saw the need for sharing Jesus with the trucking industry. She had an urge to reach out to the unsaved, which included truck drivers who have apparently abandoned their wives and families. My desire, giving my life to God, is to bring many into His kingdom (Matt.9:37-38). She also serves truck drivers in Mombasa with the love of God. Let us pray for this woman of God in Kenya, serving truck drivers where she walks in faith.



Raphael Synpholeano Chisale is a very humble pastor who has recently joined the **MALAWI** ministry team led by Francis Chipukunya. Mr. Chisale shares his testimony that he was at first a good person while in a position in church. He allowed sinful desires to rule his life which caused such tiredness. At the end of 1998 his life changed completely when he attended a night of prayer where the preaching came from Romans 7:13-25 with the emphasis on verse 24. "What a wretched man that I am, who will deliver me from this body of death?" This words reflected exactly what was in his heart, and before the pastor finished the sermon, the conviction in his heart was overwhelming. By the end of the preaching the pastor made an altar call, and he didn't hesitate to act and surrender his life to the Lord Jesus Christ.

This was the beginning of his faith journey. He shared his new-found salvation with his dear wife while tears were running down his cheeks. Raphael was shocked when he noticed and realized that truck drivers were involved in sexually immoral relationships with other women while away from home. We requested that this man of God would share his personal walk with God with the younger members of the Malawi team for encouragement. May we all stay close to our heavenly Father and not base our salvation upon being a good person. Let us bring all truck drivers before God; pray that He will work in their hearts as He did in the heart of Mr. Chisale.

A prayer request on behalf of the African trucking ministries: Please remember to pray for all involved in the trucking ministry in Africa where it is crucial that this calling to serve truck drivers with the love of God should be sustainable and independent, trusting God for

His guidance in all.





MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS & GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

Southern Africa Truckers Ministry (SATM)
Had a pleasant surprise when...

We approached Hitler, a Truck Driver from ERB; who welcomed us with a dear smile in light of the view that we have met each other more than a year ago during a SATM – Truckers Outreach, close to POLOKWANE (LP)!

October 2023
NETROPQORT, (GP)

November 2022
Shell Ultra City, (LP)

Hitler is a fellow believer and follower of Christ, and showed his appreciation for a few minutes of unprecedented care & encouragement spent.



Continue to pray for our new venture in the Netherlands through Igor Smits. He is working hard to get the right paperwork in place to begin ministry to the trucking community in this

country. There are many requirements and finances are needed to meet them.

Pray for favor when he speaks with his church about supporting this endeavor for the kingdom of God.

Pray for Igor's solicitor as he makes arrangements with the chamber of commerce to get a registered number to open a business account for ministry use.

Pray for Igor's search for board members -- the right people called by God to guide him.



Leave a Legacy of Faith for TFC Global's future ministry to the trucking community.



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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- Potentially reduce or eliminate your required minimum distribution this year
- Ability to direct your gift to any program of TFC Global

For more information, contact us at info@tfcglobal.org or call 717-426-9977.





Then the bottom fell out. We have all had days like this.

There were delays in unloading. “Mr. Weaver, there are issues with your paperwork.” There were delays at my first pick up. “Mr Weaver, your stuff isn’t quite ready yet. Go sit in your truck and we will call you.” There were delays at the next pick up. “Mr Weaver, your stuff is ready, but there are trucks ahead of you...”

There were delays at nearly every stop that day.

Since I was in New York City, we all know what happened after that. Traffic delays.

Anyone who has been in trucking for any amount of time has experienced these trials.

I know most of you would have been cool as a cucumber in navigating these challenges.

I too would have been cool... on the outside.

But, I am usually boiling on the inside.

That day something was different. I was different.

Why was I at peace? Was it because all the years of trucking have allowed me to be more patient? Maybe.

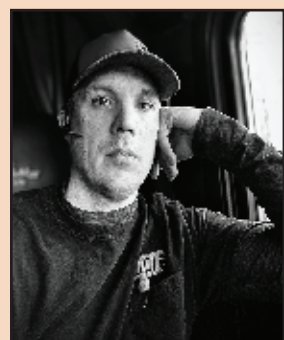
We all encounter tests. Moments of challenge that we know are coming; we just don’t know how or when they will come. In Numbers 13 we see a test that God gave his people.

Numbers 13:1-2 (NKJV) 1 And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, 2 “Send men to spy out the land of Canaan, which I am giving to the children of Israel; from each tribe of their fathers you shall send a man, every one a leader among them.”

In this passage, God tested His people, and He knew they would fail. How can a loving God give people a test when failure will be the outcome? Simple. Tests aren’t for God; tests are for us. And tests are not even about making a decision in a moment, they are about understanding decisions we have already made.

This is not like the days of high school, where we think that we can do whatever we want and then cram on test day. God’s people needed to know how weak their faith really was, and the studying could not be crammed.

Even after all the miracles God showed His people, He needed them to know that they were not ready for what He had for them.



He also needed the next generation to know what questions are on the test.

The amazing thing about taking a test with God is we can take it again and again. When we pass, promotion is on the other side.

Since God has got me, I am going to sit back and patiently wait for my phone to ring.

Shawn Weaver serves as the senior pastor at ACTS Covenant Fellowship and as a driver for NHT Logistics. If you would like to connect with Shawn, email him at shawnweaver2@gmail.com.

TFC GLOBAL: PROVIDING TO THE TRUCKING CHAPLAIN

READ THIS ACTUAL CUSTOMER REVIEW OF OUR CHAPLAINCY SERVICES BY SCOTT WALTERS, CEO OF WALTERS SERVICES INC.

- Chaplains belong in the workplace 224% because that's where people are hurting.
- Chaplains handle the "real life" questions that employees are asking.
- Happy people do far better at work.
- Chaplaincy services add another level to an Employee Assistance Program that provides free counseling for a full package of support.
- Chaplains do not take employees away from being productive at their job.
- Everyone is having, has had, or will have some kind of life issue that is made better by a chaplain who listens.
- During the loss of a coworker, the chaplain helped us all through the grief process. He even had a small service for us to remember that person.
- Even at 6:00 a.m. drivers' meetings, our chaplain is positive and encouraging, available for questions and prayer, if someone wants that.

If you would like to speak with this customer to ask your own questions, please contact our office using the information below and we will put you in touch with this CEO.



To find out more about TFC Global's Corporate Chaplains Network



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Last Chance for a Matching Gift!

SHOW HAULER



Deadline for funds is December 4

You do not have to be a truck driver to know about the increased number of trucks in the rest areas across America. More and more drivers are avoiding truckstops because of time constraints, the cost of parking, and the transition away from caring for the truck driver versus the traveler.

TFC Global is looking for new ways of ministering to those drivers who frequent the rest areas along major highways. A vehicle like the one pictured would serve a dual purpose -- care for drivers at rest areas and assistance during a natural disaster. A show hauler would give a living space for chaplains as well as a place for gathering for prayer or conversation. This type of vehicle is built with longevity in mind with a strong frame and aerodynamic design. Our prayer is that someone might have this type of vehicle to donate to TFC Global for a mobile ministry.

*We are so close to our goal.
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Still Needed: \$1054.50*

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TruckStruck

LYNN BOLSTER

INDUSTRIAL GARAGE

Twice in my life I have lived over a garage. As a kid, our garage was under my bedroom. It was a normal, healthy garage with few, if any oil stains on the cement floor, reasonably organized and no remaining fumes or odors. That is unless you counted the smell of skunk cabbage that used to grow in the swamp behind our house near the garage. It was the kind of garage where you could set up a folding table and chairs on a hot day, sit inside with the door up, keeping cool while passing the potato salad, hot dogs and lemonade around. It was actually just another room in the house.

Once trucking was in my life, a garage took on a whole new role. It was part of the house, still under the bedroom but house garage it was not, industrial garage became its name. A twelve-foot door to accommodate big trucks, grease and oil stains galore, mice, mold, a massive number of tools, compressors, welding equipment, water seeping in, septic close by...not particularly healthy but a productive garage. No potato salad here unless you were eating it while simultaneously holding, with greasy hands, a bologna sandwich with a side of diesel soot to go.

Backing old Kenworth into the garage was not a problem, the issue was when it was time to drive her out. Since air pressure has to build for several minutes before you can move a truck, guess what belched out the stacks while waiting? Yep, diesel smoke and where did it go – upstairs into the house. I used to see the soot stains on my Tupperware in the kitchen. Have you ever tried to stop smoke? How about stopping the smell? Now I have to admit I love me some diesel smell. (I think it goes back to my childhood. We used to go to the dentist in the city and had to wait on the street corner to cross. The buses and trucks would drive by and I remember inhaling their exhaust, enjoying the smell - I guess it does literally get into your system because I don't mind it to this day.) Anyway, I would turn on the big fan near the ceiling, but since it hung ten inches below the stacks, it wasn't pushing much out the door.

The garage door was a huge, outdated, metal beast, all but impossible to open. Once up it was hard to get down and once down it was hard to get up. We finally got an electronic opener but if you pushed the button too long, it would jump off track and take hours to get right again. Bill was not a happy camper during these episodes.

Even though this garage had its challenges, the amount of work done in there was huge. Guys came over to pick Bill's brain about what was wrong with their motors, get tires changed out or have you-name-it done to their truck, not to mention us working on our stuff and their stuff at the same time. There were many jobs done that I would label 'just because you can doesn't mean you should.' Some days it was just Bill, me and the guys shooting the breeze with a cold drink, as their cigar smoke floated in the air. Often there was more of this than actual work being done.

Me being the clean-up junk gal that I am, after so much time, couldn't bear all the parts, pieces and what-not-have-yous sitting around leaking and seeping everywhere. Bill would be too tired to clean up and of course couldn't part with anything. So, on many a Sunday, I would park him in a chair, and I would drag dilapidated parts out of the dirt section (yes we had a dirt floor on one side) and ask him: scrap, sell or save? This way I not only got a good workout, as most of the parts being from a semi carried a good bit of weight, but I was able to keep his rag tag bunch of parts in some semblance of organization. He had no problem with my participation, in fact, he would often say "do you remember where I put (fill in the blank)?" I would immediately recite the location and remind him of the expression "do you want to talk to the man in charge or the woman who knows what's going on?"

Having our own garage as truckers was a blessing, as owner-operators it was essential. Just remember, if you decide to paint a truck red, like Bill did - in the garage without a paint booth - don't do it. If I didn't like diesel soot on Tupperware, I really found it hard to like a red mist on it. Have you ever tried to stop paint overspray or paint fumes? Have we not learned anything?

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.



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Chaplain's Corner

By Craig Maart



A CHAPLAIN WHO PRAYS

As a believer, I know there is an assumption I should pray. The reality of prayer being a real part of the ebbs and flow of my everyday life varies, but with concentrated effort, things have improved greatly in me over the last five years. It's an oxymoron to think of a Christian, saved by God, and not be in communication with Him. That can't be how we live our lives.

The 12 disciples asked Jesus, "teach us to pray". This request to their Rabbi was right after they observed Jesus in another extended time of prayer to the Father. Luke 11 and Matthew 6 give us the most details on how this conversation went down. Jesus uses the word "when" three times in Matthew 6:5-7. It is clear based on the words Jesus used that he expects and assumes His followers to pray. The phrase, "when you pray, is followed by, "This then is how you should pray" in verse 9.

Why am I writing on prayer for the month we celebrate Christmas? I want you, as supporters of TFC Global, to know the TFC Global leadership staff and chaplains place a high value on prayer. From the top down, prayer is a value we put into practice. There is prayer at every staff meeting, chaplains meeting, chaplain candidate interview and any in-person meetings. We want there to be no doubt we are fulfilling Jesus' assumption in the phrase, "when you pray".

I have been on staff in three different Christian ministries, and it was all too common to plan, have meetings and take action without prayer. Is God really guiding if someone is asked at the end of a planning meeting to "pray for God to bless our plans"? Imagine what God thinks about that: His children, whom He sent His son to die for, paid the sin debt for, desires to be in a close relationship, and they plan without Him. Then they send up a gratuitous prayer for His blessing when they are done planning. That is foolish thinking. That reality is a lack of faith. It goes against the natural assumption of Jesus for His followers.

I want you to know prayer is a part of TFC Global Chaplaincy Services. We are powerless without it. We can't expect to be and feel close to God without talking to Him. Prayer is before, during and after meetings, chaplain interviews, conversations with trucking company owners, as part of giving counsel to drivers and when the gospel is offered to someone. This prayer focus does not happen by accident. It is intentional. I am grateful to be part of it and contribute to this as the culture of TFC Global.

As we seek entry into more trucking companies and spaces to serve the trucking community, prayer is the beginning, middle and end in this process. With this in mind, please stop for a few minutes right now to pray to God the Father, in Jesus name, for us to see His guidance, discern His will, and go in His power. We need the TFC Global community of faith partners to be in prayer for the sake of people being brought to the light of the gospel.



Craig Maart is the VP for US Operations. He oversees all state-side TFC Global Chaplains, which includes recruiting chaplains, training chaplains through CTI (Chaplains Training Institute), placing, encouraging, equipping, hosting monthly meetings and representing TFC Global to companies, churches and organizations. Craig has a Masters degree in Christian Ministry and Theological studies. He has been in full-time ministry for 27 years. Craig and his wife Joanna have two young adult children. He has a passion for God and connecting people to the message of the gospel. Craig also likes to fix cars, go to the gym and occasionally golf. He is thankful for the new growth of TFC Global through the new method to accomplish the same mission that started over seventy years ago.



WINGS OF THE WAY

HELP NEEDED

Advocates & Pilots

Help survivors of human sex trafficking relocate by being a travel companion (advocate) and flying a plane (pilot) from one location to another

✉ wingsoftheway@gmail.com

🌐 www.WingsoftheWay.org

Southeastern Pennsylvania is experiencing the greatest need at this time with around 9 calls per week coming in requesting relocation for survivors.



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WE NEED YOU

01

Volunteer Maintenance Director to help take care of the building and grounds of our headquarters in Marietta, PA.

02

Volunteer Administrative Help, as the need arises, to file, entry of data, and assist with special projects

03

Volunteer Communications Assistant, each month, to write articles, design pages, and put together our magazine

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To help TFC Global meet these needs, contact our office at info@tfcglobal.org or call 717-426-9977.



MAY YOU HAVE A TECH-FREE CHRISTMAS

BRAD HUDDLESTON

Have you ever been asked, “What did Santa bring you for Christmas?” For Christians, gift-giving for Christmas has nothing to do with a calorically challenged man wearing a tacky red suit and donning a fake beard. A man called Saint Nicholas back in the fourth century was rumored to be generous and performed miracles for poor people. That legend morphed into the modern myth of a rotund man who travels the world once a year in a sleigh pulled by flying reindeer. As a hunter, I wish they would fly over my neck of the woods.

I digress.

The Christian tradition of giving gifts is traced back to the wise men who followed a star to find Jesus. According to Matthew’s gospel, Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the reign of King Herod. About that time some wise men from eastern lands arrived in Jerusalem, asking, “where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star as it rose, and we have come to worship him.” And the star they saw in the east guided them to Bethlehem. It went ahead of them and stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were filled with joy! They entered the house and saw the child with his mother, Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasure chests and gave him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Matthew 2:1-2, 9b-11 (NLT) The Scripture does not say these men purchased these gifts at a local big box store or online. After all, they were wise. For them, giving gifts was not the fruit of commercialism but an act of worship.

Last year, CNBC’s headline said it all: “Inflation? Recession? Starting Black Friday, Holiday Shoppers Are Planning to Spend.” And boy, were they correct. On November 26, 2022, USA Today reported that in the US, \$9.12 billion was spent in one day, a new Black Friday record. Also interesting is that 48% of online sales were conducted on a smartphone, up from 44% in 2021. Despite the worldwide economic gloomy news, Salesforce reported that Cyber Week 2022 saw \$281 billion in global online sales. This is an excellent example of how integrated the digital world is into our daily lives.

Unfortunately, the commercialization of one of the most sacred “holy day” seasons is alive and well. God came into the world to capture our hearts. But, for far too many of us, “things” have captured our affection. “Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be.” Matthew 6:21 (NLT) Every Christmas season, technology is at the top of the gift-giving list. However, giving gifts known to be addictive is a far cry from God’s original intent.

To say that our ministry goes against the culture is an understatement. Nevertheless, now and again, the Lord sends encouragement our way. For example, we recently received a report from a pastor noting that after his congregation heard me speak, a couple decided against giving a Nintendo Switch to their kids for Christmas. That is a powerful act of worship that God will no doubt honor. This year, I encourage you to enjoy your family in the presence of Immanuel, God With Us.

May you have a digital-free Christmas.

*For more information, visit bradhuddleston.com. While there, be sure to check out my new book, *Digital Rehab: Learning to Live Again in the Real World*.*

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SCAN ME





Life Is Like A Truck

Tom Wolff. Priority One Area Director

I still remember the feeling of exhilaration as I pulled my loaded rig out of the yard onto the city street. The moment was remarkable because at this precise instant my trailer decided to stay behind. As I pulled out, the trailer slid away from the fifth wheel and crashed onto the frame rails of the tractor with an awful sound and a bone jarring feeling. Thankfully I was able to stop just before it came completely off the truck or pulled off any brake lines.

I thought I was hooked up properly but I wasn't. It could have been quite an expensive error. Thankfully I was able to dolly down the trailer, drop the air on the tractor suspension and slide back under the trailer, lesson learned.

OK, let's learn some parts. The fifth wheel is a large steel plate attached to the tractor with a large slot in it. Near the front of the trailer, underneath, is the kingpin – just a piece of round steel about 4" in length and approximately 2" wide extending from the underneath of the trailer. When hooking up, you back the tractor under the trailer so that the kingpin goes into the slot. When it's fully in, a bar locks into place behind the pin and firmly connects the tractor to the trailer. The connection is deceptively small and invisible to most people, yet it's incredibly strong.

There is a huge spiritual correlation here that we must not ignore. Do you have the invisible connection with Jesus that holds your life together in good times and bad? Are you sure?

Many times, I have asked men I counsel if they have prayed to ask Jesus into their life. They often think a minute and reply they have prayed that prayer – usually many years ago. And that was it. They may still attend church services and even serve in the church, but it's clear that a relationship with Jesus isn't the guiding force in their life. Is the prayer alone the assurance needed to be convinced we are properly connected? Jesus was very clear that we could not only pray a prayer but we can be active in church and still not truly be known by Him.

Jesus related a disturbing story in Matthew 7:21-23, "Not

everyone who calls out to me, 'Lord! Lord!' will enter the Kingdom of Heaven. Only those who actually do the will of my Father in heaven will enter. On judgment day many will say to me, 'Lord! Lord! We prophesied in Your name and cast out demons in Your name and performed many miracles in Your name.' But I will reply, 'I never knew you. Get away from Me, you who break God's laws.'

Jesus's invitation isn't to simply pray a prayer inviting Him into our life. His invitation has always been, "Follow Me." A true connection with Jesus should transform us. We not only invite Him into our life but we actually begin to change, becoming more like Him. We allow Him into every part of our life until He becomes the deep center – that place from which all decisions and behaviors flow. Ultimately, we grow into new ways of living. We grow in understanding and obedience to Jesus's teachings - communicating with Him regularly and hanging out with other believers. That's how we grow – That's how we change. The truth is my truck became disconnected because I didn't examine the connection closely enough during my pre-trip inspection. Had I slowed down and looked more closely, I would have seen an improper connection and resolved it. Paul gives us similar directions to make certain that we are true followers of Jesus. He challenges us to, "Examine yourselves to see if your faith is genuine. Test yourselves. Surely you know that Jesus Christ is among you; if not, you have failed the test of genuine faith." (2 Corinthians 13:5)

When our connection to Jesus is secure, though invisible to others, it becomes the strength we need to live life every day. Take time to double check . . . Is Jesus central to your life? It's a life-or-death connection with eternal consequences, so don't take chances. The invitation from Jesus stands to this day: "Follow Me." Responding "Yes" gets you connected. Living into your "yes" will take the rest of your life but trust me when I tell you, the journey will be worth it!

Tom and his wife, Cindy, have lived in Thornton, Pennsylvania for over thirty years. After driving tractor trailers for twenty-one years over-the-road, he went into full time youth ministry. After receiving a master's degree in counseling in 2008, he opened his own practice shortly thereafter, while continuing to serve in full time ministry. After 16 years, he joined Priority One, focusing on men and the many issues they face.

In The News

In this section we will be sharing stories about drivers or their families that have been helped through this organization.



Over the road truck driver Mr. Edward D. has been reunited with his family near Ft. Worth, Texas. Edward's family wishes to thank everyone that donated to make this reunion possible.

1. Purchase a brick on the American Heritage Memorial truck. Each brick costs \$250 and is designated by family or friends to honor a driver who passed away. CB handles, military branch and rank are two ways that the brick can be customized to best memorialize the loved one.
2. Use the IGive website when shopping at your favorite stores. Many name brand stores are available for your needs. Each store gives a percentage of your final sale to truckersfinalmile.org. Download the widget at www.igive.com today to take advantage of sending funds directly to this worthy charity at stores you are already using for your shopping.
3. Donate on the truckersfinalmile.org website or through TFC Global by scanning this code.



KEEP THIS TRUCK ON THE ROAD

Expensive repairs are part of the life of an independent owner-operator. Our truckersfinalmile.org truck is no different in needing repairs. Help us raise the funds to keep this truck and trailer on the road as a beautiful memorial and art piece representing our country. Contact the TFC Global office at info@tfcglobal.org or call 717-426-9977 to help with this goal.



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UPCOMING EVENTS

9, DECEMBER

Bucks-Mont Chapter Christmas Breakfast
Franconia Heritage Restaurant, 8:00 am
Contact Sam at 215-872-8426 or email
samalicerittentfc@verizon.net.

23, DECEMBER

Benton Arkansas Prayer Breakfast
JJ's Truckstop, I-30, Exit 106
Benton, Arkansas
Contact George at georgel@tfcglobal.org

20, JANUARY

Susquehanna Chapter Prayer Breakfast
First Baptist Church, Sunbury, PA, 8:00 am
Contact Don at 570-374-9479

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

- 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 will 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 accept this free gift and ask Jesus to be the Lord of your life, 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."

We would love to hear about your salvation. Email TFC Global at info@tfcglobal.org or call 717-426-9977. Resources will be sent to help you grow in your faith.



1525 River Rd
Marietta PA 17547

In Memory of or In Honor of

In Memory of Sharon Kellen
by Timothy & Annette Stamberger

In Memory of Gary Dahl
by Timothy & Annette Stamberger

To find out how you can honor or
remember a loved one, email
info@tfcglobal.org.