

THE TRUMPET

Voice of the LORD Ministries

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He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay. Matthew 28:6



**In Loving Memory of Mary Owens** 

June 11, 1934 - March 08, 2023

Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints. Psalms 116:15

Some of our readers know that we recently suffered damage to our ministry computer. Needless to say the need was urgent and costly. A week or so after the need arose I received a message from long time friend and ministry partner, Ray Owens. The LORD had laid it upon his heart to donate the money to buy a new computer for the ministry. Here is part of the message that he sent to me...."It will be a way to honor Mom in her name, she can still be winning lost souls even though she's gone" Sister Mary Owens was a precious woman of God who served the LORD for many years. There are no words to express what this gift means to the ministry. It will be used for the Glory of God and for the preaching of the Gospel around the world! I know that she would be so blessed to know that her spiritual legacy and her work for the LORD continue to reach people for Jesus even though she has already made it to Glory!





# **Cousin Leroy**

Leroy was asked to speak at the funeral of a cousin that had recently passed away. Though he had never done anything like that he hated to say no so he agreed to do it. Standing beside the open casket with a trembling voice, he said, "I know this must be a very hard time, for family and friends. But we must remember that what we see here is just the shell. The nut has gone to Glory." Needless to say it was the last time anyone asked Leroy to speak at a funeral.

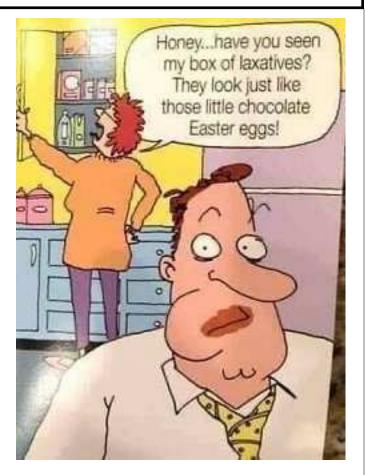
### The Bribe

A professor gave a big exam to his students. When he collected the papers, one student had attached a \$100 bill with a note saying: "A dollar per point." The next day the student got his test score and \$64 change.

### **Church Bulletin Bloopers**

- ~ Bertha Belch, a missionary from Africa will be speaking tonight at Calvary Memorial Church in Racine. Come tonight and hear Bertha Belch all the way from Africa.
- ~ Announcement in the church bulletin for a National PRAYER & FASTING Conference: "The cost for attending the Fasting and Prayer conference includes meals."
- ~ Miss Charlene Mason sang "I will not pass this way again" giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.
- ~ "Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Don't forget your husbands."
- ~ The peacemaking meeting scheduled for today has been cancelled due to a conflict.
  - ~ Next Thursday there will be tryouts for the choir. They need all the help they can get.

~ Sister Barbara remains in the hospital and needs blood donors for more transfusions. She is also having trouble sleeping and requests tapes of Pastor Jack's sermons.



### **More Church Bulletin Bloopers**

~ The associate minister unveiled the church's new tithing campaign slogan last Sunday: "I Upped My Pledge, Up Yours!"

- ~ The Rev. Adams spoke briefly, much to the delight of his audience.
- ~ Weight Watchers will meet at 7 p.m. Please use the large double door at the side entrance.
- ~ A new loudspeaker system has been installed in the church. It was given by one of our members in honor of his wife.
- ~ The outreach committee has enlisted 25 visitors to make calls on people who are not afflicted with any church.

~ Evening massage: 6 p.m.

~ The Pastor would appreciate it if the ladies of the congregation would lend him their electric girdles for the pancake breakfast next Sunday morning.

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## The Power Of God!

Pastor Billy R Douglas

But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world. Galatians 6:14

For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God. 1 Corinthians1:18

Not only is the finished work of the cross the only hope for lost humanity, BUT it is also the only hope for the saved. We were saved by faith, faith in what? What Jesus did on the cross. And the Bible teaches us clearly that we are justified by faith as well...faith in what? Self? Religion? GOD FORBID! There is no redeeming power in those things. Faith in the shed blood of Jesus is the only thing that can save, sanctify and justify! It is that faith that saves us and keeps us safe and secure in Him. It is that faith that gives us the power to overcome the world, the flesh and the devil! Because HE has already defeated those things, so when our faith is anchored in Him and what He has done, His victory is our victory! We must never lose sight or faith in the cross! That saved us, that keeps us!

### How Long

How long will I beckon a world that is lost? And when will I tire of preaching the cross?

How long would it take to drain the ocean dry? To count each star that hangs in the sky?

How long would it take to count the sand by the sea? How long would that take, for you and for me?

As long as there's breath in this body of mine, I'll tell of its beauty and glory divine.

How long will I beckon the world to the cross? Til every last soul is no longer lost!

(Billy R Douglas, 2023)

For though I preach the gospel, I have nothing to glory of: for necessity is laid upon me; yea, woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel! 1 Corinthians 9:16

Until next time may the LORD bless and keep you is our prayer. Pastor Billy R Douglas

And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God. 1 Corinthians 6:11

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## **THE TRUMPET**

### A Word to the Wise - An Introduction

### "The proverbs of Solomon the son of David, king of Israel;" Proverbs 1:1

The wisdom of Solomon was of world-renown. When the Queen of Sheba witnessed first-hand the wonder of his wisdom and wealth she was amazed to the uttermost. Here were her conclusions (I Kings 10:7-9): 1. She believed the reports regarding Solomon were greatly exaggerated; but her experience confirmed, "...behold, the half was not told me: thy wisdom and prosperity exceedeth the fame which I heard." 2. Solomon's people, due to his wisdom, were happy and blessed. 3. Because of Solomon's great wisdom, it was understood that God is worthy of worship and the people of Israel were blessed.

When kings and queens longed to sit at the feet of Solomon, learning from and being amazed by him, why do so many Christians overlook the richness of these divinely inspired proverbs, treating them as little more than a collection of interesting sayings? Why do believers know Franklin's "A stitch in time saves nine" better than many truths found in this book of wisdom? In the end, we often find the Wise man's warning to be true: "They would none of my counsel: they despised all my reproof. Therefore shall they eat of the fruit of their own way, and be filled with their own devices." (Pr. 1:30-31) You may ask, "What counsel have I ignored? What reproof?" I invite you to start reading through this amazing book each day; join us here in following months for answers.

Do you, like the Queen of Sheba, think I exaggerate the importance of this book? I remind you that Proverbs belongs to Holy Writ, that it is God-breathed, divinely inspired. Proverbs belongs to the category of "All scripture" which Paul said "is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works." (2 Tim 3:16-17)

Holy history tells us that Solomon's wisdom originated in Heaven, given by the Hand of God because this young man humbled himself before the Almighty, asking for understanding and discernment. (I Kings 3:5-15) We should long for such understanding and discernment – prayerfully read and study this book.

This wisest of men is the son of the best of men, King David, a man after God's own heart. David trusted God (example Ps. 71), the wisdom of such trusting was exampled before Solomon, and it took hold both by divine decree and parental training. Having both learned from above and by parental example, Solomon passes this lesson on trust to us through Proverbs 3:5-7.

Our children would benefit better at the feet of Solomon, through the study of Proverbs, than to learn from a government school system that denies Biblical truth, wisdom, and in some cases, the existence of God. A school that teaches rebellion to God through evolution, LGBTQ+ indoctrination, heralds communism, and other anti-Biblical truths, can bring neither wisdom nor real knowledge to our children, for Solomon rightly states: "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding." (Pr. 9:10)

We, and future generations, are in desperate need of discernment, understanding and wisdom. The book of Proverbs, like any Scripture, is not to be judged by us; instead, it is to be the standard which judges us. We are simply called to believe and obey. Might these truths bind us, becoming a jewel to adorn us and a crown to identify us as princes of the Most High. Let us read from this book of Proverbs daily, memorize it with our children, and systematically study and teach them as though it is cherished wisdom from on high – for it is!

Sit at Solomon's feet; learn from One who is wiser than Solomon. Gain understanding and wisdom regarding spiritual, physical, and political dangers. Gain knowledge, warning, and discernment, regarding love, family relationships, financial training, parenting, and much, much more.

### The Importance of Standing on Truth (Pt. 2)

Pastor Steven Huston

"Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand." Ephesians 6:13

Christ tells us to take up our cross daily and follow Him; His way is a holy way of bold truth. Paul calls the believer to stand having done all to stand in this evil day. Last month we asked the question, "What happens when a Christian neglects this sacred and sober duty of standing boldly on truth, diametrically opposing falsehood?" We said that the answer is found in Judges 17:11-13; it's devastating to the believer (v. 11), gives the unbeliever a false sense of authority (v. 12), and gives the unbeliever a false sense of security, misrepresenting God and His Kingdom (v.13).

We also covered the fact that it's devastating to the believer (v. 11) last month. Whenever a believer doesn't stand in obedience and lives in compromise it affects their faith, their witness, and stunts their further growth in Christ. Our words and actions should leave no doubt to a watching world of where we stand. Stand boldly, having done all to stand. Second, verse 12 warns that our contentment with sin and silence in rebuking it gives the unbeliever a false sense of authority; for we read, "And Micah consecrated the Levite." Micah's consecration really meant nothing at all. Why? He had no authority from God to declare a renegade, mercenary Levite as set apart (consecrated) by God to the service of this idolatrous false religion. The Levite, by birth, belonged to God, set apart for His service. Through the Levite's contented compliance Micah believed that he had the authority to do as he wished.

How often is our silence and lack of "having done all to stand in this evil day" seen as a contented compliance that emboldens the enemies of God, giving them, in their own eyes, authority to continually reject the authority of God, the Word of God, and even the existence of God? As a fire goes out both light and heat dissipate. Darkness has no power or authority over light and coldness is simply the lack of heat; yet as light and heat withdraw, darkness and cold take over. The same is true spiritually. When the light and warmth of holiness are ablaze within us there is no room for dark and cold. In Matthew chapter five Jesus said that we, as believers, are the salt of the earth and the light of the world. Reader, we are meant to make a difference; when we go along to get along we are trying to hide our light under a bushel and our cleansing, preserving influence is lost.

Let me close this section with Psalm 119:105; "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path." Sometimes the world reacts violently to the light because we are shining it in their eyes instead of lighting their path. It's also true that men love darkness because their deeds are evil; but we do not show people the way out of darkness by shining truth in their eyes so much as on their path, the destruction it leads to, and a better way.

Third, verse 13 shows that our silence, our lack of standing on truth and for truth, gives the unbeliever a false sense of security, misrepresenting God and His Kingdom. After the Levite was content to be unequally voked (for a price) and after Micah usurped authority, consecrating the Levite, we read, "Then said Micah, 'Now know I that the LORD will do me good, seeing I have a Levite to my priest." With the phrase "Now know I," it would appear that he had known that his idol making and worshiping was sinful; prior to his hiring of the Levite he had fear of judgment. Apparently he knew that Levites had been set apart to the priesthood and ministry of the sanctuary; so now having acquired one he feels a sense of security, albeit a false one. The Levite neither stood on nor for the truth of the second commandment; "Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image." His silence led to his active participation which led Micah to believe that the Lord would bless his false worship. In refusing to declare and define the difference between the holy and the profane, in refusing to stand in love for God and in compassion for wayward men, we lend a false sense of security that their sin against a holy God is okay. As part of the royal priesthood we need to recognize that our silence and lack of action not only gives a false sense of security but misrepresents our thrice holy God. We cannot afford to sit in silence. Paul asks, "How shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard?" and explains the importance of speaking the truth to meet man's only true need, "So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." Let us not be ashamed of the gospel but speak it clearly and winsomely, "for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth."

Live holy. Stand boldly. Speak with love.

Pastor Steven Huston 103 N. Division Ave. Fremont, Michigan 49412 www.podomatic.com/podcasts/pohl

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#### Strawberry Lasagna

2 lbs strawberries

2 sleeves graham crackers

1 (8oz) cream cheese, room temperature

1 (14oz) can sweetened condensed milk

2 (3.4oz) box instant cheesecake pudding

#### 3 cups milk

1 (12oz) cool whip, divided

Wash, cut tops off of strawberries and slice them 1/4 inch thick and set aside. Line bottom of 13x9 baking dish with graham crackers and set aside. Combine cream cheese and sweetened condensed milk in a large bowl and beat well with a mixer until smooth and creamy. Add pudding mixes and milk then continue mixing on low for 4 to 5 minutes or until mixture starts to thicken. Fold in 2 cups of cool whip until smooth. Pour half of the cream cheese mixture over graham crackers. Arrange a single layer of strawberry slices over cream cheese mixture. Top strawberries with another layer of graham crackers then cover with remaining cream cheese mixture. Top cream cheese mixture with another layer of strawberry slices. Cover and refrigerate for 6 to 8 hours. When serving top with remaining cool whip. Crush remaining graham crackers and sprinkle crumbs over the top.

### Sweet Hawaiian Crock-pot Chicken

2 lb chicken tenderloin chunks 1 cup pineapple juice 1/2 cup brown sugar 1/3 cup soy sauce

Combine all ingredients, cook on low in crock-pot for 6 to 8 hours.

#### Pineapple Lemonade

1 cup country time lemonade mix

3 cups water

1 (46oz) can pineapple juice, chilled

2 (12oz) cans Sprite

Combine all ingredients and chill. Garnish with fresh lemon slices when serving, if desired.

### **Baked Tortellini Casserole**

1 (20oz) container of refrigerated or frozen cheese tortellini

1 lb ground beef

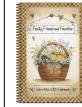
1 (24oz) jar of pasta sauce

8 (ounces) cream cheese (cubed)

1-2 cups shredded mozzarella cheese

1/2 cup grated or shredded

Cook the pasta a la dente according to the package directions; drain and set aside. Preheat your oven to 350 degrees and grease a 9x13 baking dish. In a large skillet, brown the ground beef with the seasoning of your choice (I use salt, garlic powder, pepper & Italian seasoning). Remove the excess grease from the browned beef and then stir in your tomato sauce and cream cheese. Simmer for a few minutes until the sauce is well incorporated. Gently toss your cooked tortellini in with the sauce mixture and then pour it into your casserole dish; Sprinkle with shredded mozzarella and parmesan. Bake uncovered in the center rack of your oven for about 20 minutes. Switch the oven to broil and continue baking for an additional 2-3 minutes or until the cheese starts to brown.



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### Tears fell on the Bible: the ballad of Blind Billy

by Patrick McKinney

Blind Billy was a young man who had a heart for souls, He couldn't read the Bible but learned all that he was told, Billy asked the preacher to mark pages he could trace, So he could show this lost world about God's amazing grace. Blind Billy heard a woman crying, in a diner late at night, He didn't know her troubles but knew what'd make them right He walked up beside her and asked, could you help me please, I have this book that was given but its words I cannot see

Billy ran his finger down the edges to a tab the preacher made, And turned to the Holy Words about a sinner that was saved The woman started reading, her voice soft and low, As these two strangers walked down that old Roman's road. The woman stopped reading and asked, why'd you come to me, Billy said I'd rather be a blind man than a soul who cannot see Billy reached out and took her hand and asked if he could pray, Tears fell on the Bible as her sins were washed away

Blind Billy had a Bible with words he could not read, He took that old Bible to all those who could not see, Every time he got a chance he'd ask if he could pray, Then tears fell on the Bible and sins were washed away. Billy was raised up in a special home for the blind, He hadn't seen his family since he was left behind, It was hard not to be bitter, at times he'd even hate, Billy prayed that someday his family he would meet

On a bench at the station Billy waited for a train , An old man shuffled in, dripping wet from the rain , He stood next to Billy with bourbon on his breath, Billy said, excuse me sir, won't you sit and have a rest. Billy opened up his Bible and asked the man to read, Then Billy heard a voice he hadn't heard since he was three, The man's voice began to tremble, not knowing what to say, Then Billy's tears fell on the Bible as he heard his Daddy pray

Blind Billy had a Bible with words he could not read, He took that old Bible to all those who could not see, Every time he got a chance he'd ask if he could pray, Then tears fell on the Bible and sins were washed away

The ballad of Blind Billy is a lesson for us all God will always make a way if we answer when we're called Blind Billy had a Bible with words he could not read He took that old Bible to all those who could not see Every time he got a chance he'd ask if he could pray

Then tears fell on the Bible and sins were washed away

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Pastor Billy R Douglas

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## Scars: The Unspoken Language

Our faithfulness in persecution will speak volumes for Christ to those who witness God's grace and love working through us and reaching out to our persecutors. Our words may fall on deaf ears but God's love shown through our actions and our scars of steadfastness will melt hearts as we point to our Saviour.

Henry Bosch relays this precious story of Adoniram Judson, the renowned missionary to Burma. This man of God endured untold hardships trying to reach the lost for Christ. For seven heartbreaking years he suffered hunger and privation. During this time, he was thrown in to Ava Prison and for seventeen months Adoniram was subjected to terrible mistreatment; yet he remained faithful to his Lord. As a result of this persecution, for the rest of his life he carried the ugly marks made by the chains and iron shackles that had so harshly bound him.

Undeterred, when Mr. Judson was released, he asked for permission to enter another province where he might continue preaching the gospel message of Jesus Christ. The godless ruler indignantly denied his request, saying, "My people are not fools enough to listen to anything a missionary might SAY, but I fear they might be impressed by your SCARS and turn to your religion.

When it's our turn to stand faithful for Christ, may we do so by His grace, no matter the cost. May we now begin to more frequently draw near to God, that He might fulfill His promise to draw near to us. Such drawing near must be a lifetime practice, not just a hard time shout for help. Afterall, love is the heart of the gospel.

## Tangled Thread

There was a sign that hung in an old textile mill that read: "When your thread becomes tangled, call the foreman." A young woman was new to the job and, as expected, her thread became tangled. Looking at the sign, she thought, "I'll just straighten this out myself." She tried and she tried to untangle that thread, but to no avail, the situation only worsened. Finally, she called the foreman and said, "I did the best I could." To which the kindly foreman replied, "No, you didn't. The best thing you could have done is to call for me."

Dear friend, who do you, call for help? Do you attempt to untangle the messed up threads in your life, witnessing the knots only get tighter and more complicated? Maybe you go to your friends or psychology books for help. Or do you call upon the Divine Foreman who is able to make all things right? Are you working things out "according to the Word of God" or are you working your thread by the cultural standards, your own intellect, or the way in which your family has walked for generations? Call upon God; trust in Him; "Be not wise in thine own eyes; fear the LORD, and depart from evil." (Proverbs 3:7)

Woe to them that go down to Egypt for help; and stay on horses, and trust in chariots, because they are many; and in horsemen, because they are very strong; but they look not unto the Holy One of Israel, neither seek the LORD! Isaiah 31:1

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## The Way The Truth The Life

Pastor Mike Vaughn

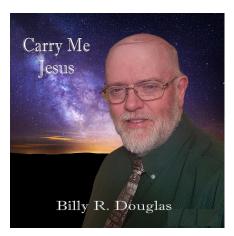
Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me. John 14:6

If someone would ask me, What's your favorite scripture, I would have to say, John 14:6 God brought great revelation to me through this scripture many years ago. Men have searched for truth since the beginning of creation and still search today. To arrive at truth one must realize that truth is more than a religion or a set of rules and regulations but rather, Truth is a person. Jesus is not a truth. He is the truth. He is also the way and the life. Without the way there is no going, without the truth there is no knowing, without the life there is no growing.

You are loved with an everlasting Love., Pastor Mike www.mvmgoodnews.com P.O. Box 550 Tickfaw, LA 70466

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men. John 1:1-4

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#### **By Sister Michelle Deuling**

**Verse for Today:** 1 Corinthians 1:10 Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.

Additional passages for Today: 1 Cor. 11:18; 12:25; Galatians 6:1 - 2; John 13:34; 15:17; 17:21-23

**Thought for Today:** If we focus on the gospel message of sharing God's love it is easier to be like-minded and avoid creating divisions among believers.

Story for Today: Mia, Emma, and Sophia sat quietly on the couch as they pondered the words that their Dad was sharing with them. It was typical in the Dagmeyer home to find both Mom and Dad sitting in the living room having a time of discussion with their three daughters in the evening. Mr. Dagmeyer felt it was very important to know what his girls had learned throughout the day, whether it was through intentional training or just what they had picked up on from what they saw and heard. Tonight the girls had been to Bible class at church and each had shared about the lesson their teacher had taught. This was an opportunity for the couple to clarify and make sure the girls understood the truths of the Bible. Sophia had told them about her lesson and had added that some of the girls in her class had also been talking about a show they had seen on TV. It was a secular show but it seemed like everyone was watching it. Mr. Dagmeyer was cautious as he chose his words carefully. He explained that the lure of the world was strong. Many things that please the senses, while they may not be sinful, can lead a person away from the presence of God. He reminded the girls of the Bible verses they had just read in 1 Corinthians 12:25-26 which said, "That there should be no schism in the body; but that the members should have the same care one for another. And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honoured, all the members rejoice with it." He explained that watching ungodly things allow seeds of the world to be planted in our hearts. He reminded the girls that it is the responsibility of all believers to be ready at all times to speak of Christ, building up other believers and offering opportunities for salvation to the lost. He encouraged the whole family to spend their time focusing on knowing Christ and sharing His love with others, rather than spending time discussing things that would draw themselves and others away from God. He explained that if every believer were to continuously share the love of God, the gospel message, and the hope that can be found in Christ, there would not be time to focus on ungodly things. He made sure that everyone understood that it wasn't kind to belittle others even if they didn't agree with what they were doing. The family took some time as each of the girls followed their parents' example and prayed for more diligence in keeping their minds focused on Christ. They prayed for the girls in Sophia's class that God would convict and lead them to a closer walk with Him. Sophia made a plan to call each of the girls over the next few days to encourage them with Scripture and let them know she was praying for them. She also planned to take every opportunity to let her friends hear about the love of God.

**Questions for Today:** When you hear or experience things that go against your Christian beliefs, are you quick to criticize? Do you encourage your brothers and sisters in Christ to be better Christians or do you knock them down as you let them know they are "less of a follower of Christ" because of what they have done or said? All believers must focus on Christ and share the gospel message of His love. Do you take every opportunity? Will you seek to begin to take opportunities today?

**Prayer for Today:** Heavenly Father, we thank You for Your love and for allowing us to spread Your love story to the lost in this world. Thank You for giving us Your Word, the Holy Bible, to let us know You better. Please help us to encourage one another and be unified in You. Help us to let the world see You by our love for each other. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

#### Weekly Radio Outreach

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WPAK 1490 AM Farmville, Virginia

Showers of Blessings 104 FM Pago Pago, American Samoa

WJJT FM 105.9 WJJT AM 1540 Jellico, TN

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Swain County Christian FM Bryson City, NC WTRP 1620 AM

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WBPS FM 101.9 Cambridge, Ohio

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### **God's Simple Plan of Salvation**

My Friend: we are about to ask you the most important question of your life. Your joy or your sorrow for all eternity depends upon your answer. The question is: Are you saved? Do you know Jesus Christ as your personal LORD and Saviour? It is not a question of how good you are, nor if you are a church member, but have you put your faith in Jesus? Are you sure you will go to Heaven when you die? The Bible makes the plan of salvation plain and simple. *Romans 10:13 says For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.* Call on Jesus today. <u>Put your faith and trust in him and ask him to forgive you of your sins and to be your LORD and savior and you will be born again...SAVED!!</u> Do this today, tomorrow may be to late! Please write or call us if you have made the decision to accept Jesus.



### 2 Stations ONE MESSAGE...The Gospel of JESUS CHRIST

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## VOTL Tabernacle 216 Hill St. Livermore, KY *Services* Sunday Morning Service 11 AM Everyone Welcome

Submit your Prayer Request to: Voice of the LORD Ministries P.O. Box 541 - Livermore, KY 42352 Phone: 270-313-8753 Email: voiceofthelordministries@juno.com