



# The G.E.M.

Edition 5

The Grace Electronic Magazine

May 2007

## FOCUS ON THE LOST

Welcome to this our fifth edition of *The G.E.M.*

Firstly we would like to thank you for your continued support over the eight months that we have been open, and to those of you who visited us over the Easter weekend.

To most people, the thought of evangelism is both complicated and scary, but it does not need to be. In fact, it is as simple as telling someone about the Proteas beating Australia in the World Cup. (I am allowed to dream aren't I?) But what is it that ties us up in knots?

In this edition of *The G.E.M.* we are going to be looking at the subject of evangelism, and will try to provide you with some information to help you overcome the fear of telling others about the Good News of Christ.

We will also look at some great evangelism titles and training material from an organisation called *The Way of the Master* run by Ray Comfort and Kirk Cameron.

Until next time,  
God bless.



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## OBEY GOD RATHER THAN MAN

*"We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name," he said. "Yet you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and are determined to make us guilty of this man's blood." Peter and the other apostles replied: "We must obey God rather than men!" (Acts 5:28-29).*

Before Jesus ascended into heaven he commanded the disciples not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father: the Holy Spirit.

Ten days later while in the Upper Room, the promised Holy Spirit arrived and five hundred followers of Christ were baptised in the Holy Spirit and with fire. From that moment on, the apostles were changed men. They filled the streets of Jerusalem with teaching about the risen Lord. As Peter said, they obeyed God rather than men.

As with the apostles, we too are called to fill the streets, towns and cities, and, indeed, the whole world, with teaching about Jesus.

But for the most part, the world does not want to hear the Gospel. That is why, for example, you will find, that schools will welcome Harry Potter, evolution, Atheism, Buddhism, and all sorts of other "isms", but not Christianity. You are more than welcome to go into a school and talk about horoscopes, yoga, and all the other weird New Age practices, but not Jesus. Are we not observing some form of double standard here?

But there are people in the world that you can easily reach. They are within your circle of influence and only you are in that perfect spot, or have that perfect relationship where you are able to reach them. We need to ask ourselves; "Am I really reaching out to others with the Gospel of Jesus?" We have the power of the risen Lord working in and through us. With God's help, there is nothing we cannot do. Let us be bold, and with the power of God's Holy Spirit, begin to tear down the strongholds of Satan that exist in our world, and proclaim the saving message of the gospel to the nations!

## DIARY OF EVENTS

### BE SURE TO DIARISE THE FOLLOWING EXCITING EVENTS

#### **Beauty for Ashes Women's Conference**

2 Identical conferences: 18-20 May & 25-27 May 2007

For more information visit: <http://www.beautyforashes.co.za>

#### **Luidkeels Hersien**

12 May 2007 at Hatfield Christian Church, Pretoria

Book with Computicket

#### **360° Leader with John Maxwell**

23 July 2007 at Sandton Convention Centre

Registration: <http://www.entourage.co.za/pages/register.htm>

#### **South Africa Revival Conference**

With Richard and Henry Blackaby

August 27-September 8, 2007

#### **Joyce Meyer Conference**

12-13 October 2007 at The Coca-Cola Dome, North Riding

Book with Computicket



## THE WAY OF THE MASTER

Based on the award-winning TV series *The Way of the Master* by Kirk Cameron and Ray Comfort (currently on TBN), two courses have been developed to train believers in a group setting to simply and confidently share the Gospel with family, friends, work colleagues and even strangers.

Each course is split up into eight sessions that will teach you to overcome your fears by using a simple, yet powerful method that makes the Gospel make sense. One does not need to be an eloquent speaker, apologist or Bible scholar to effectively use the methods presented in the courses.

Kirk Cameron and Ray Comfort use a captivating teaching style that not only tells you how to witness, but shows you too, through fascinating on-the-street conversations with gang members, atheists, cult members, intellectuals, Jews, homosexuals, Muslims etc.

Weekly home assignments gradually coax you out of your comfort zone. You will be inspired and motivated as you learn, watch and then do. These courses will give you a passion for the lost, while at the same time, help you to improve your own relationship with God.

These courses are highly recommended by John MacArthur, Ravi Zacharias, David Jeremiah, Joni Eareckson Tada and Josh McDowell.



### WAY OF THE MASTER COURSE MATERIALS AVAILABLE FOR ORDER THROUGH GRACE MEDIA.

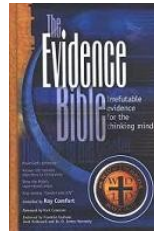
**Television Series** – Seasons 1 & 2  
1 Complete season on DVD – R525.00  
Individual DVD's – R90.00 each

**Basic Training Course**  
DVD Kit – R750.00  
Study Guides – R30.00  
CD Audio Kit – R150.00

**Intermediate Training Course**  
DVD Kit – R750.00  
Study Guides – R30.00

Visit our website for the complete list of *The Way of the Master* and Ray Comfort titles available.

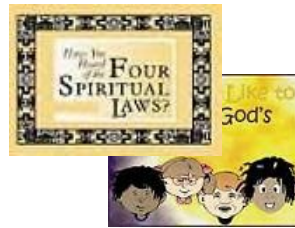
## EVANGELISM TITLES & TOOLS



**The Evidence Bible**  
Hardcover – R270.00  
Pocket New Testament – R70.00



**Just Walk Across the Room**  
by Bill Hybels



**The Four Spiritual Laws**  
Adult (Original) version – R1.50  
Children's Version – R2.20



**One Million Rand Note**  
Fun ice breaker to get people talking



**Good News Glove**  
Ideal for Children's Evangelism

◀◀ ▶▶ ✝ ▶▶  
**Evangelism: from the Greek word**  
*euaggelizō (εὐαγγελίζω): to*  
**declare/show the Good News.**

## SHINE THE LIGHT

Inspired by Matthew 5:16

They are dying in the townships,  
Due to AIDS and malnutrition,  
Along with all the other hardships,  
That continue to plague our nation.

Many spend their time at Sun City,  
Thinking that money is the solution.  
What a great shame and a pity,  
That they don't know true salvation.

In Durban they are burning in the sun,  
Trying to look better than the other.  
Many do not know God's only Son,  
Who teaches us to love our brother.

The homosexual in Cape Town,  
Is trapped in the bondages of sin,  
While others look on them and frown,  
Many will never learn the true Way in.

In Jo'burg, drugs still plague our teens,  
Heroin, Mandrax, Dagga and E,  
Taking in the wrong kind of greens,  
They will never learn to be free.

'Tatta ma chance' won't empty our jails,  
It is the dying "hope" of our nation.  
Crime and murder and all the tales,  
Of cheating, lying and corruption.

Someone has to take the Gospel,  
Of peace throughout our land.  
To be committed to the people,  
And not be afraid to stand.

For it is you and me, as His disciples,  
Who are to bear the lamp of God.  
To let our light shine and be examples,  
And bring our nation back to God.

Glyn Williams  
© Copy(it)right 2005

## Recommended Reading

**HELL'S BEST KEPT SECRET**  
by Ray Comfort

**Expanded edition complete with study guide and free CD.**

**R130.00**



## SHARE JESUS, SHARE LOVE

As Christians we recognise that we should be actively reaching out with the Good News. But in practice we find it hard; hard because of fear that we will make a fool of ourselves or offend people in some way, and hard because we lack support and encouragement.

Perhaps part of the problem is due to us not fully understanding *how* to be a witness. Hearing people like Billy Graham giving an invitation and leading people to Christ causes many to conclude that one needs to be an effective preacher with great verbal skills in order to witness.

But in fact, a witness is simply a person who can give a first-hand account of something (Webster's Dictionary). So how do we give this account of something, or rather in our case; someone? In three ways – through our involvement, life and words.

### Be involved

Not everyone is able or comfortable enough to go out and witness to people on the streets. There are many who have that gift and are doing great things for the Kingdom. But we can serve as witnesses by simply becoming involved in one way or another in any evangelistic activities undertaken by the church.

For example; by being involved in a teen's or children's holiday club, or even a soup kitchen. It does not matter whether one is in the spotlight and actively sharing the

Gospel in one of the activities, or just being there to lend a helping hand to those who are. You are still being a witness.

One thing to bear in mind if we are the ones in the spotlight and are involved in the actual sharing, we must not look down on those who are just washing up or making the posters, and think that they are afraid to share their faith. It may be

true, but just by being involved in the background activities allows people to put off their shyness and later on they may be ready and willing to stand with you in the front-lines.

If our evangelism programmes are to succeed, we need the people in the background for all the mechanical tasks that are not done by themselves. Sound and video equipment does not just magically arrive and set itself up. They require people. Just by being part of the sound team, one is being part of the whole witness of the church.

### Live it

We are witnesses also in the way that we live. In this sense, every single person who is a Christian, is a witness for Christ. It is through our actions and attitudes that we say the most about our faith. As we dealt with in the previous edition, the lost are watching us and our actions will speak greater volumes to them than our words ever will.

We must not pretend to be what we think a Christian should be, when in reality we are nothing like that. To put on a mask and act like someone we are not is not only dishonest but it will push more people away from the church than draw people to it. The world does not care whether we sin or not, it cares that we act like we do not.

So what sort of life should we strive for then? A good and perfect life? No. In Scripture are we not told to be good, but rather to be devoted to Christ. And there is a difference between the two.

If we are devoted to Christ, goodness will follow naturally. On the other hand, if we make goodness our aim instead of Christ, we are doomed to fail, and we will fall victim to an attitude of self-righteousness.

Peter put it quite simply: "*But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect*" (1 Peter 3:15 – NIV, emphasis mine).

This then leads on to the third way in which we witness:

### Speak it

Read the verse from 1 Peter again. Notice how he states that if we live a life devoted to Christ, we will automatically be questioned about our faith and witness.

When we are questioned, we must not run away, but rather be ready to give an answer. To do that does not mean that we are to be brilliant in apologetics or Bible 101, but instead we must be prepared to give an answer of "*the hope*" that we have in Christ Jesus. We must not be afraid that we do not know how to answer people, but rather express in words the nature of our faith.

We are called to be witnesses for Christ through our involvement, actions and words. We must aim to be involved in all three ways, and as we do so, we will become what Christ has called us to be – true and

active witnesses for the sake of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.



If you are unsure on how to witness to people and often find that you do not have the

right words, then I urge you to become involved in some sort of an evangelism programme in your local church. If your church does not have one, then encourage them to start one, or start one yourself. We all need some form of support and encouragement, and a good way to start is through running a proper evangelism course like *The Way of the Master* featured in this edition.

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**“ WE ARE CALLED  
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ACTIVE WITNESSES  
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JESUS CHRIST!”**

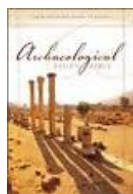
### Pick of the Month

**BEST SELLING BIBLE  
OF 2006**

**NIV® Archaeological  
Study Bible**

**With Bonus  
CD-Rom**

**R520.00**



**BOOKS FOR MOTHER'S DAY**



**R40**

*Promises from God for Mother*  
Gift book



**R60**

*A Bouquet for Mother*  
Gift book  
by Nina Smit



**R110**

*White Chocolate Moments*  
by Lori Wick



**R50**

*Devotions for Mom*  
by Ellen Barks Elwell



**R310**

*NIV Mom's Devotional Bible*

**GIFTS FOR MOTHER'S DAY**



**From R135**

*Quilted Wall Hangings*  
**EXCLUSIVE TO GRACE MEDIA**



**From R37**

*Assorted journals*



**From R21.50**

*Beaded Bracelets and Bookmarks*



**R85**

*God's Gifts Promise Box*



**R30**

*LuxLeather PageMarkers*

**MUSIC & DVD'S**



**R120**

*Celtic Worship*  
by Sheila Walsh



**R120**

*Hiding Place*  
by Don Moen



**R65**

*Amazing Grace*  
Timeless hymns of Faith



**R150**

*Faith Like Potatoes*  
DVD



**R200**

*God He Reigns* DVD  
Live worship by Hillsong

**IMPORTED FROM HOLLAND**



**R85 each**

*Angel of the Month and Guardian Angel*  
Figurines



**R48 each**

*Angel of the Month*  
Mugs

**TRADING HOURS:**

**Monday – Friday:**

9am – 5pm

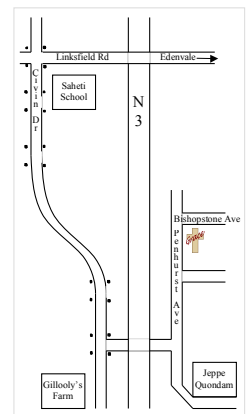
**Saturday:**

9am – 2pm

*Closed Sundays and some Public Holidays*

2 Bishopstone Ave,  
Essexwold, Johannesburg  
Tel.: 011-454-6045  
Fax: 086-654-2996  
[www.gracemedia.co.za](http://www.gracemedia.co.za)  
[shop@gracemedia.co.za](mailto:shop@gracemedia.co.za)

From the N3, take the Linksfield Rd off ramp. Turn right up hill. Stay in left lane. Turn left into Civin Dr. At 4th set of lights, turn left under bridge. At t-junction turn left. Through the boom. We are ± 200m on the right hand side. Entrance is in Penhurst Ave.



**VISIT THE STORE FOR MANY MORE MOTHERS DAY GIFT IDEAS**