



The G.E.M.

Volume 2 Edition 9

The Grace Electronic Magazine

September 2008

TIME FOR SPRING

Spring has sprung! I love this time of the year. Not too hot, and not too cold. New life is evident everywhere in the green plants and as birds fly south, back to the warmer climates. What a beautiful time of the year.



Apart from being the start of spring, we are also currently in the middle of our Birthday celebration. We are giving you a 10% discount off all purchases made in store, excluding already discounted items. You also have the chance to enter the draw to win one of three hampers. Don't hesitate as you only have until Saturday 20 September.

Our website is growing more popular by the month. With information about local events being updated all the time, new releases and other exciting developments, it seems to be becoming a regular site to visit by many of our customers, both in the area and further afield in SA. Be sure to keep visiting us at www.gracemedia.co.za.

Until next time, God bless. †

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SHOP TRADING HOURS:

Monday – Friday:

9am – 5pm

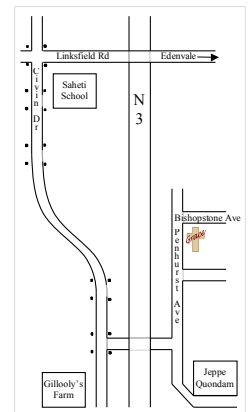
Saturday:

9am – 2pm

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Directions: 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.



MISSIONS SPOTLIGHT

Islamic Republic of Iran *Jomhuri-ye Islāmi-ye Irān*

Capital: Tehran

Official Language: Persian

Currency:
Iranian Rial



Population:
70,472,846

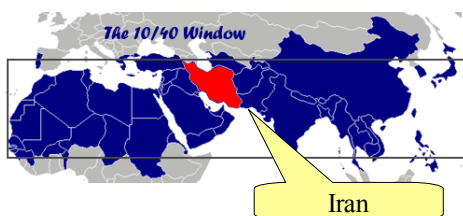
Government:
Islamic Republic

Iran is the eighteenth largest country in the world with an area that roughly equals that of the United Kingdom, France, Spain, and Germany combined. Its borders are with Azerbaijan and Armenia to the north-west; the Caspian Sea to the north; Turkmenistan to the north-east; Pakistan and Afghanistan to the east; Turkey and Iraq to the west; and the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman to the south.

Known as Persia until 1935, Iran became an Islamic republic in 1979 after the ruling monarchy was overthrown and the shah was forced into exile. By the first millennium BC, Medes, Persians, Bactrians and Parthians populated the western part, while Cimmerians, Sarmatians and Alans populated the steppes north of the Black Sea. Many names mentioned in the Bible are contained within the history of Iran, such as: Cyrus the Great and Darius the Great.

Iran is a diverse country consisting of people of many religions and ethnic backgrounds. The majority of the population speaks the official Persian language, and other Iranian languages or dialects. Iran hosts one of the largest refugee populations in the world, with more than one million refugees, mostly from Afghanistan and Iraq.

Religion in Iran is dominated by the Twelver Shi'a branch of Islam, which is the official state religion and to which about 89% of Iranians belong. About 9% of Iranians belong to the Sunni branch of Islam, mainly Kurds and Iran's Balochi Sunni. The remaining 2% are non-Muslim religious minorities, including Bahá'ís, Mandeans, Hindus, Yezidis, Yarsanis, Zoroastrians, Jews, and Christians. The latter three minority religions are officially recognized and protected, and have reserved seats in the Majlis (Parliament). However the Bahá'í Faith, Iran's largest religious minority, is not officially recognized, and has been persecuted during its existence in Iran.



Extracted from Wikipedia.com .

NEW RELEASES

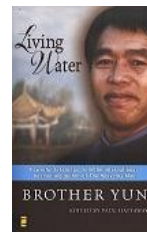
RIVEN by Jerry B. Jenkins



When a condemned man with nothing to lose meets a weary man of God with nothing to gain, everyone washed by the endless ripples of that encounter will forever recall the day a little bit of heaven invaded a whole lot of hell.

Embark on a wondrous journey where death, guilt, and despair are unfathomably trumped by rebirth, forgiveness and hope.

LIVING WATER by Brother Yun



A collection of Brother Yun's dynamic teachings that evolved from his life experiences of persecution and revival in China. Brother Yun shares how the grace of God sustained him during his darkest hours and how that darkness was transformed into the infectious joy and zeal for the Lord that are the hallmark of his ministry today. This unique book teaches us that radical faith is not for a chosen few, but for every believer who dares to call Jesus Christ Lord. †

NEW COURSE MATERIAL

CHRISTIANITY EXPLORED

Christianity Explored is a ten-week course that introduces people to Jesus Christ. Week by week, as course participant's explore Mark's Gospel, they address three questions that cut to the heart of Christianity: Who is Jesus? Why did He come? What does it mean to follow Him? For more information visit www.christianityexplored.org.

Items available:

- DVD Series - R690
- Study Guide Leader's Edition - R90
- Study Guide Participant's - R36
- Youth Leader's Guide - R150
- Youth Participant's Guide - R36
- How to Run the Course - R145



DIARY OF EVENTS

Parachute Band SA Tour

26 September – 19 October 2008
Various venues across the country. See our site for details.

UnderOath SA Tour

23-27 September 2008
Tickets available through Computicket

A Night of Worship with Darlene Zschech & Hillsong

27 September 2008
NG Moreleta, Pretoria. Tickets available through iTickets.com

Hillsong United SA Tour

14-25 November 2008
Various venues across SA. Tickets available through iTickets.com

Top 25 Must Reads

All of Grace by Charles Haddon Spurgeon

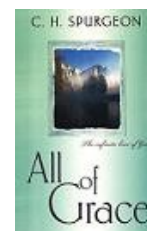
In *All of Grace*, Charles Haddon Spurgeon outlines the love of God in such clear, simple language that everyone can understand and be drawn to the Father.

Any attempt to please God based on our own works brings self-righteousness and coldness of heart. It is the free grace and mercy of God that makes the heart glow with warmth and thankfulness for God's love.

The heartfelt goal of this dynamic classic is summed up in Spurgeon's final cry to the reader, "Meet me in heaven!"

A must have in any library.

R 90.00



IT STARTS AT HOME

The news is full of reports of children and teenagers living immoral lives and even going to the extent of committing heinous crimes. There is a definite lack of morality in the lives of many of the next generation, and fingers are being pointed at the many trends in society that are feeding this attitude; like the internet, computer games, TV, movies, music, books, etc. But those are often not the areas where the problems begin. It begins with the home. Over the next few months I will be covering the rules for a Christian household found in Colossians 3 in order to build a framework on how we can make a positive influence on the negative attitude of the next generation.



Wives, submit to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives and do not be harsh with them. - Colossians 3:18-19 (NIV)



There has been much negative teaching from these verses over the years. Many women have had difficulty with such teachings because of a feeling that these verses imply that women are inferior to men. I aim to provide some clarity in this area as we look at the position of the husband and wife in the family.

In order to understand submission within the marriage relationship we need to have a clear picture of Jesus and His relationship with the Father, as this equally applies to the relationship of the wife to the husband.

Firstly Jesus said *"I and the Father are one"* (John 10:30). Here we see that there is complete unity between Jesus and His Father. Philippians 2:6 tells us that Jesus had the divine right to *"equality with God."* After all, He was God. Being one with the Father means that He was also equal with the Father.

In the same manner, the husband and the wife are one. The Bible tells us in Genesis 24 and Matthew 19 that through marriage, the two become *"one flesh."* Just as one part of an individual's body cannot be inferior to any other part; all parts of the couple as one flesh are equal. The submission of the wife to the husband in no way implies inferiority, for as Scripture clearly indicates, God considers man and woman as equals in the Body of Christ (Galatians 3:28).

Secondly Jesus said that God desires *"that all may honour the Son just as they honour the Father"* (John 5:23). The Father himself has honoured the Son by placing the entire creation under His feet (Ephesians 1:22). We also see that the Father delights to honour the Son, and desires to lift Him up and have all things placed under Him (Philippians 2:9-11). Nowhere in Scripture do we read of the Father putting down His Son, or even trying to take more honour than His Son. The Father's desire is to honour, promote and

establish Jesus over all creation.

The attitude of the husband to his wife should be the same. The husband is to delight in honouring and lifting up his wife. He should do everything in his power to make her feel respected, honoured, praised and esteemed. Just as God the Father will not tolerate any dishonour towards Jesus, so too the husband should not allow the same towards his wife. The wife should not need to seek her own honour or establish her own position. The husband should do this for her. In this way all stigma of inferiority is removed.

What would happen if all men consistently treated their wives this way? I believe that in most cases the wife would gladly and willingly acknowledge the husband's headship. There would no longer be a desire to fight for recognition or independence.

In Hebrews 1:3 the writer tells us that Jesus is *"the radiance of God's glory."* In 1 Corinthians 11:7 Paul tells us that the *"woman [wife] is the glory of man."* Here again we see a parallel between the Father/Jesus and the husband/wife relationships. Just as the Father reveals His glory in the person of Jesus, so too the husband reveals his glory in the person of his wife.

If a wife is restful, secure and content, it brings glory to her husband. It shows that her husband is treating her as he should. But if the wife is bitter, resentful and insecure, it brings dishonour to her husband. It shows that in some way he is failing in his responsibilities towards her. I once heard the story of a preacher who was asked if a certain man was a good Christian; his answer: "I don't know; I haven't met his wife yet. I'll tell you after I've seen her!"

This brings us to the next aspect of the Father/Jesus relationship. Jesus said, *"the Father is greater than I"* (John 14:28). This seems to be a contradiction to what I mentioned earlier of Jesus being equal with the Father. Paul sheds some light on this when he tells us that Jesus *"did not consider equality with God something to be grasped"* (Philippians 2:6). Jesus did not cling to nor fight for recognition or authority. Instead He willingly submitted to the Father, allowing the Father to fill His rightful place of headship. By submitting Himself to the Father, Jesus was maintaining the unity within the Godhead. If He had left the voluntary place of submission, that unity would have been broken.

In the same way, even though the wife is one with and equal to her husband, God calls on her to submit herself to her husband for the sake of unity in the home. If she does not, there will be a breakdown of unity in the home, resulting in disorder.

This, however, places a big responsibility on the wife. No man can truly be head of the home unless his wife yields to his authority. Just like your head can function without a neck to hold it up; no man can truly be head

of the home without his wife's voluntary submission and support.

But what happens if one of the partners fails to fill their God-ordained place in the home? Does that release the other partner from their responsibility? No! Ultimately the responsibility of each partner is first to God, and not to the other partner. Each has a place of obedience to take before God, and the conduct of the other partner does not change this.

Think of it this way. Say you had to be caught by the police going at 100kph in a 60 zone, would you answer the traffic officer by saying that "There were other cars travelling faster than I was"? We may try, but it will not make any

difference. The principle is that you are only responsible for the car that you are driving. Irrespective of whether or not the other cars were going faster than you, you are not responsible for their infringements, only your own.

So it is the same between the husband and wife. Each are responsible for their own conduct and fulfilment of responsibilities. It is not dependant on whether our partners are not fulfilling their roles or not. When we do what we are responsible for, we will begin to influence our partners to change their ways so that one day they will begin to fulfil their roles. Even in the case of an unbelieving spouse, as Paul says: *"For the unbelieving husband has been sanctified through his wife, and the unbelieving wife has been sanctified through her believing husband"* (1 Corinthians 7:14).

We as men are to treat our wives the way that we are told to in Colossians 3:19, with the same love that Christ has for the church. We are to build them up in the same way that God does His Son. If we do, then it becomes easier for our wives to submit to us. And wives, it is your responsibility to submit to and support your husbands as you fulfil your roles as godly wives.

How do you rate as a husband or as a wife? No matter how good or bad, take these principles and begin to live godly lives and be responsible for your role within your relationship. This is the starting point for developing Christian households that glorify God. †

"If a wife is restful, secure and content, it brings glory to her husband."

"The submission of the wife to the husband in no way implies inferiority."

Highly Recommended

I, Isaac, take Thee, Rebekah

by Ravi Zacharias

Whether you are seriously dating, contemplating marriage, or committed to making your marriage strong, the insightful, Bible-based counsel this book provides will offer you strength and wisdom as you move from romance to lasting love.



R 120

10/40 RECIPE

Sharbat-e Toot-farangi (Strawberry Syrup) (Iran)

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 cup sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 cup water
- 1 cup finely chopped strawberries finely chopped, stems removed

TO PREPARE:

1. Put sugar and water into a saucepan. Bring to a boil over high heat, and mix well. Reduce heat to a simmer and cook for about 5 minutes until thick.
2. Add strawberries and vanilla extract and, mixing continually, increase heat to medium-high. Bring to a boil, reduce heat to a simmer, cook for 5 to 10 minutes until syrup thickens, and remove from heat.
3. Strain and pour into a jar with lid and refrigerate.
4. To serve: pour over crushed ice to make snow-cones or use as a topping for ice cream. Other fruits may be substituted. Serves 4 to 6.



Taken from the book *Recipes of the 10/40 Window*.

Discussion Starter

The Ungame Pocket Versions

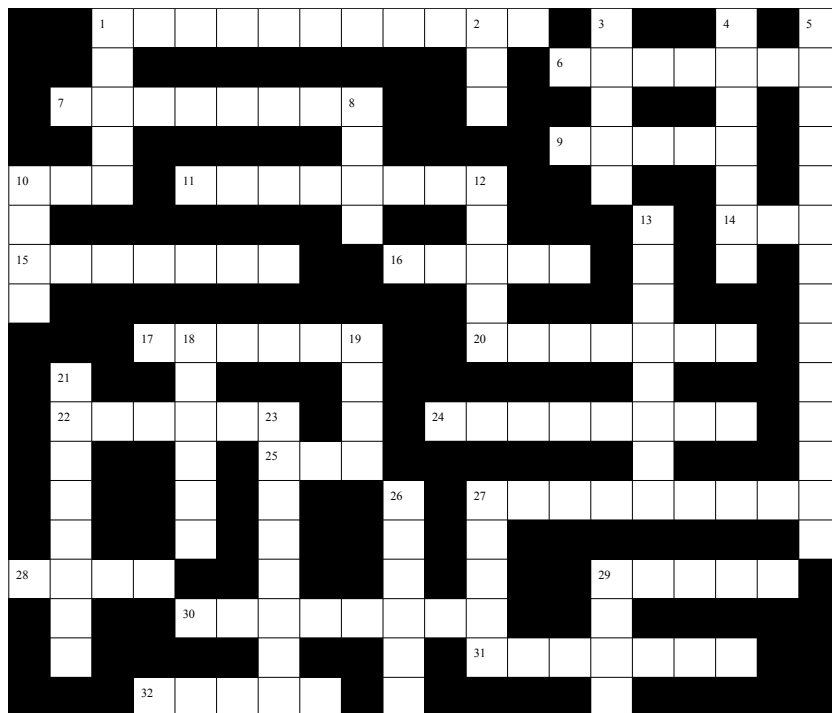
Age rated dilemmas pit your principles against tough situations. A player draws a card and is challenged by an everyday dilemma that they must solve based on Bible principles.



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LOVE & MARRIAGE



ACROSS:

1. "Husbands, in the same way be ___ as you live with your wives." (1 Pet. 3:7)
6. "...it is better to marry than to burn with ___." (1 Cor. 7:9)
7. "Marriage should be ___ by all." (Heb. 1:34)
9. "He who walks with the wise ___ wise" (Prov. 13:20)
10. "Blessed is the ___ who perseveres under trial" (Jam. 1:12)
11. "Anyone who divorces his wife and marries another woman commits ___" (Luk. 16:18)
14. "your lightning ___ up the world" (Psa. 77:18)
15. "the wife must ___ her husband." (Eph. 5:33)
16. "Your wife will be like a fruitful vine within your ___" (Psa. 128:3)
17. "Wives, ___ to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord." (Col. 3:18)
20. "Now the overseer must be above reproach, the ___ of but one wife" (1 Tim. 3:2)
22. "A wife of noble character who can find? She is worth far more than ___." (Pro. 31:10)
24. "When the dead rise, they will neither marry nor be given in ___" (Mar. 12:25)
25. "By faith Abraham, even though he was past ___ —and Sarah herself was barren —was enabled to become a father" (Heb 11:11)
27. "An elder must be ___, the husband of but one wife" (Tit. 1:6)
28. "Love and faithfulness meet together; righteousness and peace kiss ___ other." (Psa. 85:10)
29. "A quarrelsome wife is like a constant dripping on a ___ day;" (Pro. 27:15)
30. "Her ___ arise and call her blessed" (Pro. 31:28)
31. "Are you married? Do not seek a ___" (1 Cor. 7:27)
32. "you are no longer to call her Sarai; her name will be ___." (Gen. 17:15)

DOWN:

1. "A wife of noble character is her husband's ___" (Pro. 12:4)
2. "always ___ to be kind to each other" (1 The. 5:15)
3. "But those who ___ will face many troubles in this life" (1 Cor. 7:28)
4. "He who loves his wife loves ___." (Eph. 5:28)
5. "But I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for marital ___, causes her to become an adulteress," (Mat. 5:32)
8. "The husband should fulfil his marital ___ to his wife" (1 Cor. 7:3)
10. "Jacob the father of Joseph, the husband of ___, of whom was born Jesus" (Mat. 1:16)
12. "May your fountain be blessed, and may you rejoice in the wife of your ___." (Pro. 5:18)
13. "A wife must not ___ from her husband." (1 Cor. 7:10)
18. "For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be ___ to his wife" (Mar. 10:7)
19. "For it is ___ for judgement to begin with the family of God" (1 Pet. 4:17)
21. "After this his wife Elizabeth became ___" (Luk. 1:24)
23. "Now a man named Ananias, together with his wife ___, also sold a piece of property." (Act. 5:1)
26. "For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the ___" (Eph. 5:23)
27. "A woman is ___ to her husband as long as he lives." (1 Cor. 7:39)
29. "Better to live on a corner of the ___ than share a house with a quarrelsome wife." (Pro. 21:9)

NOTE: All verses taken from the New International Version.

Answers in next edition.

28. Sour 29. Holy 31. End
 23. Hunger 24. Belong 25. Dine 27. Nations 30. Forned 32. Feet 33. Subbornly 34. Died Down 2. Boast 3. Hostile 4. Grace 5. Precious 6.
 1. Above 7. Death 10. Teacher 11. Mediator 12. Confidence 14. Unte 15. Enter 17. Yoked 20. Ar 21. Inquiries
 8. Turned 9. Stranger 11. Misery 12. Cautious 13. Nothing 16. Tested 18. Kingdom 19. Divided 20. Alienated 22. Tattoo 26. Sift 27. Nets

