



THE SOWER

Volume 5, Issue 6

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Nov/Dec 2003

Pilot Outreach Program, TruthOrTradition.com, The Good News Class: Preparing For Takeoff

Dear Saint,

God bless you!

We are thankful for your support of and participation in our growing global and cyberspace community. We are humbled and blessed daily by the feedback we receive on our three websites. We are continually working on the Spirit and Truth Fellowship International website, the hub of all the facets of our ministry, and we now have BiblicalUnitarian.com and TruthOrTradition.com, which will be a great help in acquainting people with what we believe are foundational teachings of the Christian faith. You can read more about it in this issue.

These websites support the witnessing and pastoring needs of our community, in conjunction with our launching of The Good News Class and the pilot Outreach Program.

The Outreach Program (we're still looking for a proper name, possibly one that will come from one of the participants—for now it's just the OP) will start after Live Out Loud. The participants will go into a week of training and then be



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sent out on the "field" somewhere in the U.S. until we welcome them back at Family Camp in July. Please pray for them to have the best time of growth possible, and for the local fellowships that they will work with to support them and be energized by their enthusiasm.

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We are close to the end of editing The Good News Class, after which we will choose a few places around the country to “test market” it before making it generally available. If your fellowship would like to be one of these “launching pads” for the class, and will make a commitment as a fellowship to invite as many people as you can to participate, let us know soon. We want to try to reach as many people as we can in the first “wave,” but more importantly the intention of the GNC is to introduce people to Christ and graft them into a fellowship that will sustain their spiritual growth. The last thing we want to do is to play a numbers game.

Our ministry is in transition, and it serves us all to remember that transition times can be both exciting and turbulent. There is an experimental aspect to the Christian life that means that we can’t get all the answers we need before we act. Rather, we learn by doing, reaching, pressing toward our goal of building a global community of committed Christians living the truth in love. Thanks for your prayers as we move ahead into what are for us uncharted waters.

I (Mark) recently lost my mother, who fell asleep at the age of 88. Thanks to you who had heard and expressed your condolences. I have now lost both my parents, and am allowing that reality to sink in and help me connect with my own mortality. It serves us all to live in such a way that we make every day special and take steps toward our life goals. Life on this earth is precious and fleeting. I am thinking a lot these days about what is life-giving to me, and what drains me. We don’t have time to waste on regrets, bitterness, and thoughts of inadequacy and failure. We need to

take responsibility for living in the present with a faith-full eye on a future that is possible. Learning from the past is crucial, but allowing it to enslave us is not an option if we want to go where God would lead us.

On that note, let me update you as to my experience at Earlham School of Religion (ESR) this semester. By God’s grace, I have been given a scholarship that covers my tuition there (about \$6,000 a year). In exchange for the tuition assistance, I volunteer to work in the Computer Lab where I am able to learn more about computers and do a good bit of my homework! The ministry pays my expenses for books and travel (it’s an hour each way twice a week), and the courses I take have been universally applicable to our community. This semester I took three classes: *Discernment of Gifts and Callings*; *The Work of the Pastor*; and *Introduction to Old Testament History and Literature*.

My *Discernment* class is designed to help students understand the process of discernment and how to use it to discover and solidify their sense of calling and giftedness. To accomplish this, we read many articles and books from Quakers and others about various aspects of the discernment process. We also were given various tests that helped us discover our personality type and spiritual gifts. Many people know about the Myers/Briggs temperament test, but not as many know about the Enneagram. The Enneagram is a nine-type personality typing system that I found very helpful because it emphasizes the way our personality development has been directed by our choices and life experiences, even from an early age.

For instance, I was the baby of my family, the youngest of three children, seven years separating me from my brother. A number of aspects of my personality arose in response to that reality. For example, I tend to be an observer, and to discount my own needs and contributions. But I also felt loved and pretty special. As with all of us, I am a mixed bag of elements, and it serves me to see them all and to bring them into the light of God’s Word. One of the books we read about the Enneagram identified nine levels of health within each personality type, and gave us an opportunity to see both the upside and the downside so we could more intentionally avoid the unhealthy parts.

The enemies of personal and spiritual growth are ignorance, darkness, denial, and deception. Light, truth, openness, and confession mark the path to wholeness. When we are trapped in the darker elements of our personality type, we can be used of the Enemy against ourselves and others, and can become a liability to the health of the Body of Christ. I am of the opinion that our ministry needs to be a place where we can both affirm people’s natural and supernatural gifts and callings *and* help them see what parts of themselves might work against the healthy expression of those gifts and callings. Much has been written and thought about in the 350 years of Quakerism that can help our community as we grow in our ability and commitment to guide others into the fulfillment of what God has called them to.

The purpose of my *Work of the Pastor* class was to look at the *being* of the pastor, as opposed to his/her *doings*. We learned about the signs of “burnout,” the impact

of the demands of ministry on the pastor's family, ways to deepen the spirituality of the minister so s/he doesn't get caught up in the work. One of the requirements of the class was to articulate a "philosophy of ministry." In doing this assignment, I recognized that the first need I have is to be a good listener—listening to God, listening to my own mind and heart, listening carefully to others for what is said and unsaid. Proverbs 18:13 has become one of my favorite verses: "He who answers before listening—that is his folly and his shame."

I took the *Old Testament History and Literature* class on-line via "Blackboard," an awesome educational program used by many colleges and universities to expand their curriculum to serve a wider student body. I see many possibilities for utilizing this in our community, and we are looking to our Curriculum Design Committee to help in that process. As for the class itself, it was a 13-week survey of the entire Old Testament. I had to write seven short reflection papers, a 20 page research paper, and take a two hour group oral final. I wrote my research paper on Jericho and the current state of biblical archaeology. In the process of writing that paper, I felt somewhat assaulted by the conclusions of unbelieving scholars who doubt the historicity of most of the Old Testament.

As I have found in many of my classes at ESR, I was the only student arguing for the greater possibility that the text is historically accurate, whether or not that has been established by archaeology yet. Given the limitations of properly interpreting ambivalent archaeological evidence, I see no reason to

abandon my faith in the accuracy of the text in exchange for a supposedly more "rational" approach of "scholars" that appears to me to be just as inventive and self-serving as they accuse the biblical writers of being. If archaeology could really demonstrate that the Bible is not historical, I would reluctantly revise my theology, but it does not have that power because its conclusions are too tentative based on very fragmentary evidence.

Despite the challenging aspects of the academic arena, I am finding great value in testing our beliefs and teachings against the competition, and finding many new insights and understandings that will benefit us. In many ways I am being mentored, and I have found ESR to be a place where I experience a lot of grace and truth. That speaks to the presence and leading of Jesus Christ, whose I am and whom I serve, along with you in this wonderful family of God.

Please pray for us as we meet together as a Board January 17-24. We need divine assistance in the leading of this ministry, and your prayers make a huge difference.

Keeping the faith with you,

*Mark Graeser, Tom
Resner, John Schoenheit,
Gary & Karen Theisen*

Check out our new websites!

www.TruthOrTradition.com
&
www.BiblicalUnitarian.com

Letter From Dan Gallagher About The East Coast Itinerary



Grace and peace from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ. My heart leaps each time I think of you and the wonderful works of love you do for God's most precious possession, His people. I pray for you daily and wish that time and distance permitted us all to fellowship with each other face to face more often.

As I traveled the East Coast recently, I was reminded of how important it is for us to stay in contact with each other. After attending the East Coast Conference in Atlanta, John Schoenheit, Billy Darr (of Home Office fame), and I traveled 1100 miles by car, stopping to visit a number of saints as we made our way to the New England Conference in Massachusetts. At each stop I saw the powerful benefits derived from the mutual encouragement we all experienced. There is great satisfaction and comfort knowing that others really do care for you. I reflected often on how true it is that "God not only wants us to believe, He also wants us to belong."

Mankind was created for community, fashioned for family, and formed for fellowship. God designed us for relationship, and He's never lost sight of His vision of having a family. After learning to love God, our second purpose in life is to love one another. In fact, "one anothering" is our family

responsibility. Belonging to each other is so important to God that He even tells us that we demonstrate our love for Him by how we love others.

Many times I've thought that relationships with others would be great if I could just eliminate the "others" part. Unfortunately, the greatest pains we experience in life usually result from relational breakdowns, yet we also know that the greatest joys in life can be known only through relationship with others. It is no coincidence that Satan's main tactic is to divide by destroying relationships. We must fight for our vision of a godly community where every person is valued and esteemed, a community of diversity that celebrates our individual giftings, promotes mutuality, and esteems sympathy, mercy, and humility. We must come together not to compete, but to complete one another.

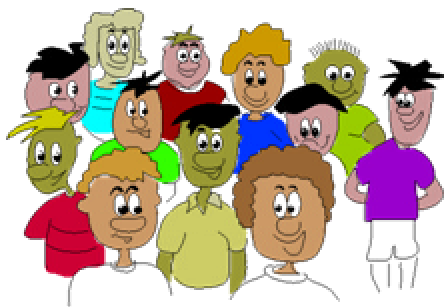
In this season of thanksgiving, I can't help but think of how thankful I am for you. It is my desire to open wide my heart to you and that you, as Paul says, "as a fair exchange... open wide your hearts also" (2 Cor. 6:13). This coming year, the Lord willing, I would very much like to visit as many saints as I can. Please don't hesitate to let me know if you'd be blessed to have me and possibly a few of my traveling companions come to your area. Our lives are dedicated to serving and supporting you in any way we can. Remember, it takes teamwork to make the dream work.

Walking faithfully with you,

Dan Gallagher

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Atlanta Weekend



The Fall Fellowship in Atlanta, held at the Airport Holiday Inn October 26-28, revolved around the theme, "Back to the Basics." The conference was hosted by the West Side Bible Fellowship. **Ivan Maddox**, who helps lead that fellowship, opened with a review of the basics: prayer, fellowship, Bible study, giving, witnessing, and more. **Richard Winstead**, from the same fellowship, shared on prayer and its importance in developing an intimate relationship with God. Then **Dan Gallagher** shared on the importance of fellowship and staying connected in the Body of Christ, a subject that he is certainly passionate about. **Mark Graeser** took the Friday night slot and shared on the importance of worship, and the rich meaning of what it is to worship "in spirit and truth."

After worship on Saturday morning led by **Lonnie and Martha Naylor** of Atlanta, we heard from **John Schoenheit** who talked about the "wisdom model" of Christian living as distinct from the "faith model." He talked about the messes that believers sometimes get into when we do not use wisdom in our decision-making and just launch out "in faith" without thinking things through. He plans to continue to teach this subject and eventually make a Tape/CD of the Month on the subject.

Billy Darr and **Matthew Johnson** from the Home Office shared with the group about the exciting goings-on in the ministry, especially the BiblicalUnitarian.com website.

Saturday afternoon **Allison Hunt** took a break from overseeing Children's Fellowship and gave a rousing sharing on the blessings of giving, particularly financial giving.

Saturday night we had a lovely banquet followed by a coffee house organized by the **Naylors**. The highlight of the evening was a powerful drama by **Billy Darr**, a theater graduate of Florida Atlantic University, and **Denise Zankich**, an actress from L.A. They played a mother and son struggling with the death of their husband/father. We were treated to an example of the amazing power of drama to move the soul. We hope to incorporate more and more powerful dramas like that at our events.

After the coffee house, we gathered in small groups for prayer and/or prophetic ministry. Much deliverance and blessing was reported, as is usually the case when God's people who are informed about the manifestations of the spirit gather to bless each other.

Sunday morning Mark shared on truth as the most basic of all basics. If there is no truth, then there can be no true God, no true worship, *no true nothin'*. He talked about the cultural drift away from conceptual absolutes like truth and moral absolutes like justice, mercy, and love, which are being replaced with the relative virtues of tolerance, authenticity, sincerity, and the like. He encouraged believers to appreciate the value of authenticity, but not at the expense

of absolute values like love. After all, one can be an authentic jerk.

Thanks to all who came, and who helped to make this a wonderful time of fellowship. Thanks to **Terry & Connie Allen** who were so excited for the opportunity to fellowship with likeminded believers that they came all the way from Minnesota to be a part of the fun.

GONE WITNESSING LATELY?



How wonderful is it to introduce another human being to truth that (a) gives him everlasting life, (b) sets him free from bondage, (c) heals his heart, (d) answers questions he has never had answered before, (e) brings him into the household of faith, (f) makes him a friend of yours? What's more, doing so brings you everlasting rewards. What a deal!

We communicate truth via w-o-r-d-s, and you may be one who once was so excited about sharing the Good News about Jesus Christ that you went door-to-door, risking front-porch rejection from strangers in the hope that they were hungry for the truth. Or perhaps you preferred your local Mall, where you could plop down on a bench beside a bored and abandoned husband and share the Gospel. How cool was it when people listened and believed?!

These activities are still legal, by the way, and might even be worth considering if you

feel you need a spiritual jumpstart and you want to get radical. There is nothing like face-to-face verbal communication with another person, and it is often rejuvenating to go through your day praying for, and seizing upon, occasions to open your mouth and speak words of life to another human.

In today's cyber world, there is another way to share the Word with the world—you can “let your fingers do the walking” (on your computer keyboard), and we at the Home Office are working hard to help you do so. As you probably know, about four months ago we launched BiblicalUnitarian.com as an auxiliary website to our primary CES site, and one that would focus on the truth of "one God and one Lord." The response has been huge, with thousands of people from all over the world visiting the site. Many have purchased *One God & One Lord* and other materials, and a growing number of people have been connected with Spirit & Truth fellowships.

And now, he-r-r-r-r-e's...

TruthOrTradition.com

By early January, 2004, this new site should have a wide variety of CES materials on a myriad of biblical subjects, and we encourage you to make a concentrated effort to send as many of your friends there as possible. Why not put an automatic link to each of our websites at the end of all your emails?

There are already articles and very inspiring FAQs on subjects like life after death, is God in control of everything, the administrations in Scripture, speaking in tongues (after

explaining it, the FAQ leads the reader into tongues), does God cause evil, and there'll be lots more coming and in many different languages.

We are *very* excited about this website, and we sure hope you will check it out and become familiar with it so that you can specifically refer people to topics relevant to their needs and interests. Please give us your feedback and suggestions, and please feel free to submit ideas for articles--or the article itself.

Right now, we have hardly anyone who is free to travel around the world, or even the USA, and teach the Word, but we are aggressively reaching out via our websites, and the Lord is giving the increase. We believe he is using this medium to connect us with many hungry people who will establish "beachheads" around the world, and that eventually we will have quite a few roving ambassadors visiting these dear saints and helping them grow into full-fledged fellowships in the Spirit & Truth Fellowship Community.

So log on to:

www.TruthOrTradition.com

Make your presence felt out there in cyberspace. Precious people all over the planet are waiting to hear from you. And you don't have to find a parking place at the Mall.

MEIJER COMMUNITY REWARDS PROGRAM

We are now part of the Meijer Community Rewards Program, which pays designated charitable organizations a percentage of its

supporters' purchases at Meijer. If you now shop at Meijer, or if you start shopping there, join Meijer Community Rewards. It's free, and you can do so online at Meijer.com/rewards. Our organization Code Number is 264663. If you cannot get online, you can contact us for an application form.

If you have a Meijer credit card, just call 1-800-962-7011 to join (or to ask questions about the program). Then simply swipe your card at the register whenever you shop at Meijer, and we will automatically receive a percentage of your purchase totals.

SEEN ANY CHRISTIANS LATELY?

At fellowship, we mean. With three websites up now, many people from all over the USA and the world are contacting us, and many are asking if there is anyone associated with "Spirit & Truth" who gets together in their area. If you are having any kind of regular fellowship, and if you would like us to connect seeking people with you, we'd love to know about it. Let's work together to get the Word to those hungry for the truth.

ATTENTION, CONTRIBUTORS

First, THANK YOU! As you know, CES is making the transition to become Spirit & Truth Fellowship International. As STFI, we are filing for tax exempt status as a church, and expect a favorable response from the IRS. Until then, please continue to make your checks payable to CES. We will let you know when to make the change.

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR OVERSEAS MINISTERS

By way of our missionary outreach, "Spirit & Truth" has become affiliated with a growing number of Christian ministers in other countries around the world. Some of our USA members have indicated their desire to help "Sprit & Truth"-affiliated overseas ministers by contributing to our Missionary Outreach Fund in the name of a particular individual so their gift is directed to him or her. For them, and for you if the Lord lays it on your heart, we want to share the following:

The IRS is concerned that the qualified donee has exercised the necessary control over contributions, that the donor has reason to know that the qualified donee has the necessary control and discretion over contributions, and that the donor intends that the qualified donee is the actual recipient of the contributions.

We certainly understand that the intent of their regulations is to prevent people from simply transferring money to others and getting a tax deduction for so doing, and of course we would not be party to that. We recognize that those who contribute to "Spirit & Truth" for a particular overseas minister do so with the understanding that their contributions are going toward the furtherance of the Gospel that we teach. Nonetheless, we set forth the following to clarify that we reserve the right to decide where the funds go:

"Contributions are solicited with the understanding that the donee organization has complete discretion and control over the use of all donated funds."

THANK YOU!!!

John Lynn here. I would like to profusely thank those who contributed to the Birthday Bless Note Book that my dear daughter put together for me on November 10. Each and every message touched my heart, and I wish I could respond to each of you individually.

I am very thankful to God for the 60 years I've lived, and my greatest treasure is the people—like you—who He has so graciously put in my life. I'm looking forward to my next 60 years! I love you.

HELLO OUT THERE IN CYBERSPACE!



Thank God that we can use modern technology to communicate around the world in seconds. We realize that not all those on our mailing list have email, but we want to utilize this medium for those who do. If you are not receiving our occasional mass emails, please send us your email address so that we can include you.

DOUBLE YOUR PLEASURE

If you are a contributor to CES, please check with your employer to see if your company has a matching gift program. Most large companies do have such a plan whereby they will match whatever you give to a bonafide charitable organization, which we are—501(c)(3) IRS designation. It could be that you can double the gift you give to CES. Thanks!

Texas Camping Report



Dear Spirit & Truthers,

We had our first Spirit & Truth camping trip here in Texas, October 24th through 26th. A number of us Texans had been bemoaning the fact that we only saw each other at CES events, which are very busy with teaching and other activities with very little fellowshiping time allotted.

We talked about doing more in our own region to meet the specific needs and desires of the people here. The CES staff in Indianapolis can't do everything! We believe that the believers within their own states or regions really need to become active to set some goals and plan events that will encourage and give the opportunity for building relationships.

The Lord has placed us in this body, and we need each other! We need to spend time with one another and get to know one another more intimately. Especially because many if not most of us are spread out in small pockets throughout the country. I certainly long for greater connectedness to a larger, more diverse community, beyond the half dozen or so believers I fellowship with regularly.

As we continue to walk with the Lord and build communities locally, we will be greatly

encouraged, comforted and strengthened if we build relationships with others doing the same thing in other places. Building these relationships, having intimacy and connectedness within the Body is God's design, and it is within this design that we can grow and be built up individually and corporately. The more we live in relationship with one another the more dynamic and synergistic our own lives and our corporate life together as a community becomes, and the greater impact we can make for our Lord Jesus.

Getting together in situations where there isn't a lot of other activity going on means we can get real with one another and share our deepest thoughts and feelings about our lives and walks with the Lord. We each have different perspectives and have had different experiences that we can share. We each have different things to offer to the Body, and the more we reach out and touch others with our unique gifts and pluck and eat of the fruit that others have to offer, the greater the healing and wholeness, and growth and usefulness to the Lord we can have evident in our lives and ministry.

Encouraging community building was the purpose of our Texas Spirit & Truth campout. We camped at Lake Livingston, in the Pineywoods about an hour and a half north of Houston. Approximately twenty people attended. The backbone of our "structure" was meals.

Each family or person came with all they needed for the weekend for themselves, and we then shared our food potluck style. I had some great fellowshiping time with some siblings in Christ, and gained greater insights into what is

going on in their lives and they mine. I have them much more in my thoughts and heart than before. I understand more what to pray about for them. The time spent around the campfire as a group was a wonderful singing, sharing time. Some of us had a hard time forcing ourselves to go to bed.

During the weekend John Truitt shared from Corinthians about not doing anything that would cause our brother to stumble. He shared about how it is within this context that Paul says that he could be disqualified in the race if he runs it wrongly. Just before he talks about the possibility of being disqualified, he says that he gave up anything that would hinder the spread of the Gospel, including his own right to be supported by the church. John shared about how it is important that we learn to walk in wisdom so that we don't do things to cause our brother to stumble or hinder the spread of the Gospel. This includes our knowledge. We can be puffed up and hurt others with our knowledge, or we can walk in love and wisdom so that our knowledge can be beneficial.

All in all, I left feeling very energized and excited. I think we will definitely be doing this again, and hope more people will join us.

In Christ,

Lisa Truitt
Dallas, TX

Tucson Believers Start Public Access TV Show

We have started to do a LIVE call-in show on Cable TV called "Family and Relationships." The purposes of the show are (1) to

teach people the Word of God so that they will have a better relationship with God and will love and serve Him better; and (2) to invite people in Tucson to come to home fellowships and be a part of a local community group.

We also give the CES website address and encourage people to go online and find out more information and purchase material so their walk with God can become stronger.

The second show we did was on "Unity and the One Body." We shared how it is very important for Christians to have unity and to live as much as possibly in peace with one another, to not be quick to judge, but to put on love and unite in one heart and mind.

As Fred taught on this topic, Joanne answered and screened calls before being put on the air. One caller said this was the best show he has watched in a long time pertaining to Christianity. There were many calls that came in. The studio producers said they never saw so many calls for only the second show. We took names and phone numbers of callers so we can follow up and see if they are interested in a local fellowship. In fact, the CES office just told us that someone who saw the show has signed up for *The Sower*!

We pray that God brings the people to us and that many get saved (we teach Romans 10:9 and 10 on each show) and come to the knowledge of the truth of the Word of God.

God Bless,

Fred and Joanne Wolfe
Tucson, AZ

In Memoriam

The Word of God makes it very clear that death is an enemy (1 Cor. 15:26), and that Satan holds the power of death (Heb. 2:14). It also assures us that one day both the Devil and death will be destroyed (1 Cor. 15:26). For this we thank God, who willingly gave His Son to die in our place, and we thank the Lord Jesus Christ, who willingly gave up his own life, trusting that God would keep His promise and raise him from the dead.

Whenever a believer dies, it is fitting for those who knew him or her to remember, to grieve, and to give thanks. It is fitting to remember how the person touched our lives, what they gave to us and we to them. It is fitting to grieve their death, which is our loss, and to say goodbye. And it is fitting to give thanks for the life they had and the life they will have when the Lord Jesus appears.

Ray Anderson
New Bern, North Carolina
Aug. 7, 1947—Oct. 18, 2003

Amy Canada
Dacoville, Philippines
Oct. 28, 1926—Nov. 22, 2003

Leah Isidro
Aug. 11, 1974—Oct. 24, 2003
Cebulan, Philippines

**Christina Andambike
Mwakasungula**
Jan. 11, 1971—Oct. 25, 2003
Mlowo, Tanzania

**Modester Andambike
Mwakasungula**
Oct. 23, 1975—Aug. 26, 2003
Sumbawanga, Tanzania

Lennie Paff
Indianapolis, Indiana
Apr. 3, 1951—Nov. 6, 2003

Barbara Reeve
San Marcos, California
Died Nov. 1, 2003

Her husband, Gary, asks that any donations to CES be designated for Teen Camp Scholarships

Don Romes
Dayton, Ohio
Sep. 9, 1941—Nov. 16, 2003

Suzi Sann
Mission, Kansas
May 8, 1953—Nov. 22, 2003

Ron Wages
Phoenix, Arizona
Mar. 6, 1957—Oct. 9, 2003



Calendar Corner



2004

February 12-15*
One Flesh Conference
Kalamazoo, MI
(open to the first 20 couples)

March 26-28*
Midwest Women's Conference
Kalamazoo, MI

July 23-25
Midwest Regional Conference
Pokagon State Park, IN

July 25-30
Family Camp
Pokagon State Park, IN

Register online at
www.CESonline.org
or
call us toll free at:
888-255-6189 M-F 8:30 to 5

* See flyers in this issue!

www.BiblicalUnitarian.com

Webmaster: Ryan Maher



Biblical Unitarians

Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.

John 17:3 NIV

Since August, 2003...

- 589 members
- 40,200 visitors

Feedback

I have been to the website a number of times and I think it is full of great content and very well designed.

It's good to have a single-topic site—especially on the error of Trinitarianism and the truth about the One God. Keep up the good work!

David A.

Thank you very much for this website! It provides a great supply of resources, knowledge, and encouragement.

Encouragement, because there are not very many in my area and circle of life who do not believe in the Trinity. It has been great to watch the membership numbers grow too.

Stacey

I have just discovered your site and am thankful to God that I am not the only person in the world who believes that the so-called Trinity is false doctrine. From what I have read so far, you have captured what I have believed to be true for many years.

Hayes G.

This is a most impressive site and I have learned quite a lot from it. Many thanks! (And praise God for His opening of my eyes to the truth!)

Gibbo

This site blessed me so much. I learned a lot about topics that enhance my knowledge of my Faith. I shared this site to my friends and encourage them that when they research about God and Jesus they will visit BiblicalUnitarian.com

Rodolfo O.
Philippines

Man, this is awesome! I owe you all and Keith J. a lot of thanks for helping me clear up some of the confusion I once had. I was one that could never really believe the concept of the Trinity and just accepted it because of the sincerity of former mentors.

Whew...this is great truth. I am definitely one believer that has been strengthened by your hard work. God Bless You ALL, you're doing a fantastic job!!!!

Trent M.

I LOVE this new site! Oregon-based CES folks met with Dan Gallagher this weekend and we all raved about it. Looking forward to sending all my Trinitarian friends here! The site is really terrific.

Keep up the good work!

Amy B.

I think this website is the greatest thing I've ever seen! I especially love all the material from *One God and One Lord*—it really gives the outside world a chance to see the real Truth and a chance to believe and a chance to look at our faith logically!

Thanks for all the time and effort put in—this website is so wonderful and it's a great tool. I love spending hours on here!!!

Rachel C.

I Just wanted to let you know how happy I am to have found your site. I've been studying the Trinity after one Jewish believer told me to find out for myself what it is all about, and how this confusion has been for 1,900 years or so.

David
Finland

We Need Your Help!

We would like to **expand** our Marketing Campaign but need financial sponsors (one time or monthly).

Would you like to be part of getting the truth of *One God & One Lord* around the globe? If so, send your support to CES marked for the Biblical Unitarian site.

ANY amount will be a great blessing (\$5.00 can reach 50 people).

Visit BiblicalUnitarian.com and tell us what YOU think!

Family News, Views, and Feedback

Do you have something to share with the Spirit & Truth family of believers that would edify, encourage, and inspire? If so, send it to us and we may publish it. To contact anyone of these folks, contact us and we will forward it on.

(We reserve the right to edit for readability and length, and unless you tell us otherwise, we will print your name, city, and state.)

Dear Sower,

The Atlanta weekend was a great blessing. I thank God daily for you guys who love God with all your life. You continue to set a vision for all of us.

Love and prayers,

Greg and Gayle Hall
Awendaw, SC

Dear fellow believers,

My husband and I have great and wonderful blessings from God these past weeks.

We purchased *Don't Blame God* and many other publications, and all are being an eye-opening and spiritual awakening to us.

George read *Don't Blame God* while he's been in a rehab hospital and was immediately calmed with its logic and openness of Word. He was able to really talk with his brother about issues on his heart and I believe they are closer by being able to discuss openly.

George has been in and out of the hospital and two different rehabs since July 31st. With God's healing, he is scheduled to come home later this week. Each day he is stronger in body, mind, and spirit.

We have been truly blessed by the readings and I have enjoyed and cherished the tape and CD teachings. When he comes home, we both will be able to share them together.

Thank you for this opportunity to share with God's love and your fellowship.

In God's love,

George & Shirley Benecke
Bellefonte, PA

Dear Sower,

I recently had the privilege of joining John Schoenheit and Dan Gallagher on a road trip up the East Coast, from Atlanta, GA to Mansfield, MA. I was very humbled by their decision to take me along, and excited as I looked forward to my first experience ministering "on the road."

We launched the trip with the Atlanta Fellowship. I was particularly blessed to minister to the teens on Saturday night (along with my roomie, Matthew Johnson) and perform with Denise Zankich.

We hit the road on Sunday afternoon and met with many wonderful believers along the way: Eric & Amy Jensen in Charlotte, NC, Don & Laura Stone's fellowship in Virginia Beach, VA, Brian & Donna Bassindale in Baltimore, MD, Michael & Rosanne Manetta's fellowship in Greenwich Village, NY, and Janet Page's fellowship in Larchmont, NY. We capped the trip with the New England Fellowship in Mansfield, MA.

I was so blessed to visit and spend time with so many wonderful believers, and I am excited to make many more trips in the future!

Love in Christ,

Billy Darr
Home Office Staff
Indianapolis, IN

Dear Sower,

Thank you for your hearts and love for God. I believe you are a blessing from God to me. CES is the only ministry I can trust in what is taught, and that means so much to me. *The Contender* seems to get better every year, and I continuously replay the tapes.

I have been around since the beginning of CES, and I have watched God take you on an incredible path that keeps growing.

In a few short words I am trying to express my sincere gratitude, thankfulness, and love for all of you.

My prayers are with you.

Love,

JoAnne Hoffman
Hammonton, NJ

News and Feedback from our Spirit & Truth International Community

Dear Sower,

It's been quite some time since my last e-mail because I've been quite busy the previous days and weeks. I'd like to update you on my last set of work—that is, my teaching encounter with the "Oneness" group in Negros province which I mentioned to you in my last mail. It was a bit accomplishing, but at the same time frustrating.

Accomplishing because I was able to share what needed to be shared to this group of people, and I saw changes in some of their ways. Frustrating because I had a feeling that once I left the group, what the students learned might just be snatched away from them and they will be back to their old "religious customs" again.

How I hope and pray that God's truth will really stick to their hearts and that they will fight for it no matter what the cost will be. During my short stay with them I was constantly in confrontation with the Bible School administrator because what I shared was actually in complete contrast to their group's doctrine.

One consolation I got was the students' openness to the new teachings, and they assured me that even if they won't be able to swallow right away what I had taught to them, they promised that they will find time to study it more and discover for themselves which really is true. I know and we all know that God's Word will never go back to Him in vain.

Regarding the Leyte province group, I have no problem with them. They are learning a lot and thanks be to God for that. I am still receiving invitations from them, too. I am still praying for God's providence so that I can continue with this ministry God is entrusting to me. Please help me pray about this matter.

Thank you so much and God bless us continuously!

Shelumiel Delima
Cebu City, Philippines

the CES teaching! I'm so proud people like you guys there in Indiana who are searching for the truth and able to share others, especially here in the Philippines.

I thank God because of your big heart here in us. There's a lot of people who really needs you guys, so keep up the good work and I do the same here too. Getting to know each other is one of my inspiration to move on enabled to be confident enough in telling the truth by means of your prayer. I do believe that we are truly a "Household of Faith" who are willing to sacrifice for the truth's sake.

Dear Sower,

Hi there! It is my great pleasure to communicate with people like us who are united in ones heart and one truth, like believing in one true God and Savior Jesus Christ whom we've shared to others. Speaking the truth in love is a real biblical attitude that we have to share and give it to all the people who really needs a real peace in their heart. I do understand what it feels because I experience an attitude that I'd never forget in my entire life since I was believing in Trinitarian.

It's about not being content of what the preacher says in the fellowship without studying the Bible. But I do realize that it's not only the preacher's right to study, its for everyone!

With the help of my father, now I'm growing up in serving people and bring them in a right path I have now. Thanks God for

For now, I'm reading the *Alpha & Omega* newsletter you are sending us. I've so blessed in every young people's testimony because it reflects my Christian experience before. It is because I've known the real arrangement of God's Word by attending the first CES Youth Camp here in the Philippines. I'm very blessed because it happens to be the most memorable moment of life.

I truly found a real peace of mind. I'm now serving Him by giving up everything to please God for His people sake. Help me pray for what God really wants me to do because now I am starting to tell my friends about the truth even though they didn't believe what I am sharing.

God Bless Yah and love you,

Jhet Batao
Surigao del Sur, Philippines



One Flesh Couple's Retreat



Come Experience Growth & Transformation in your relationship!

(Available to the first 20 couples to fully register.)

7:30 p.m. Thursday night, February 12, to 12:30 p.m. Sunday, February 15

God intended marriage to be a life-long blessing to both husband and wife, and a source of strength, rest, and comfort. But the Enemy of God has done his best to destroy the integrity of marriage and marriage vows, and split up as many families as he can. Every marriage he breaks up causes untold emotional damage to all concerned, especially children. There is no more important ministry on earth right now than encouraging and healing Christian couples, and empowering them to serve other couples. We think we have developed a workshop that does just that.

One Flesh incorporates a variety of elements that have been drawn from the biblical text, the experiences of the team couples who have practiced the disciplines of healthy communication, and insights internalized from participating in a variety of other marriage enrichment seminars and reading many books on the subject.

The goal of *One Flesh* is to help couples to learn to communicate lovingly and intimately, generate greater love and unity in their relationship, and learn to minister together effectively as "joint heirs of the grace of life."

One Flesh is for those couples who have a vision for themselves as a ministry team, but who need help connecting with each other in a deeper way so their marriage is a steady source of strength and refreshment rather than a constant challenge or a drain.

Why not make an investment in your marriage and receive tools to help you work toward experiencing the blessings and joys of a truly happy and fulfilling partnership?

Kalamazoo Radisson
100 West Michigan Av
Kalamazoo, MI 49007
269-343-3333

Free shuttle from the Kalamazoo airport.

- Available to the first 20 couples to fully register.
- Registration Fee: \$150 per couple.
- Early Registration discount: \$125 per couple (**through Jan. 22**).
- Hotel room rate is \$88 per night (**\$135 per night after Jan. 22**).

Names of attendees: _____ (OFC)

Mailing Address: _____

Home: _____ Work: _____ Cell: _____

Fax: _____ E-mail: _____

Number of persons attending: _____ Total Cost: _____

Visa/Master/Discover/AMEX : _____ Exp. Date: _____

**Register
Online!**

Please make checks payable to Christian Educational Services and mail this form to:
CES, 2144 East 52nd Street, Indianapolis, IN 46205,
call toll free at 888-255-6189, M-F 8:30 to 5 or fax to 317-255-6249.
You may also register online at www.CESonline.org.

**Register
Online!**

Thank you and God bless you!

Midwest Women's Conference!

Friday, March 26, 9:30 a.m. to Sunday, March 28, 12:30 p.m.

Bloom Where You're Planted Walking As Empowered Women



Kalamazoo Radisson Hotel
100 W Michigan Ave
Kalamazoo, MI 49007
888-333-3333 269-343-3333



No matter what season of life you find yourself in,
God has something for you for such a time as this.

- Room rate: \$85 (Up to four persons per room)
- Hotel registration deadline: March 6
After March 6th rooms are not guaranteed and will start at \$135 per night.
- CES early registration (through March 14): \$85 adult, \$50 for teen and preteen, \$50 additional family members, sister, grandma, aunt, etc.
(Includes lunch on Friday and dinner on Saturday)
- Registration (after March 14): \$100 adult, \$65 teen and preteen, \$65 additional family members.
- Please register as soon as possible, seating is limited
- No children's fellowship provided
- Registration: Friday, March 26, 9:30 a.m.
Conference runs from: Fri. 9:30 a.m. - Sun. 12:30 p.m.
- Free shuttle service is available through the hotel
- If you have any questions please contact Karen Theisen at theiphon@aol.com
- Teens encouraged to come, preteens at parents discretion.

Names of attendees: (age if under 21)

(MWC04)

Mailing Address:

Home:

Work:

Cell:

Fax:

E-mail:

Number of persons attending:

Total Cost:

Visa/Master/Discover/AMEX :

Exp.

**Register
Online!**

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**Register
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Thank you and God bless you!

Partnership Plan

TOGETHER WE ARE REACHING OUT AND TEACHING ABOUT THE GREATNESS AND GOODNESS OF GOD AND HIS SON, OUR LORD JESUS, ALL AROUND THE WORLD!

Partners will receive: a subscription to *The Contender*, Tape/CD of the Month, Partnership newsletter *One Vision, One Heart*, and a 15% discount on CES merchandise.



TOGETHER WE CAN!



Your partnership plan will begin on the date of your first contribution and will continue until you tell us otherwise. If you wish to change your pledge at any time, please let us know. We are so thankful for your hearts to partner with us. Together we are making a difference, "Speaking the Truth in Love" all around the world!

Your pledge allows us to forecast a monthly operating budget, plan publications, seminars, and international events. We are confident that the Lord will bless you back for your commitment. Our promise to you is to spend every penny wisely and honestly before our Lord Jesus.

PLEASE NOTE: The IRS requires you to deduct our cost of the materials we give you from your total annual gift. You will receive a reminder, along with our cost for the material, with your year-end financial summary.

Fill out the appropriate information below or sign up online at www.CESonline.org

(Look for the Partnership Plan link in the Online Catalog.)

My monthly pledge is \$: _____
(\$20 minimum)

I am enclosing a check for \$: _____

Audio Tape or Compact Disc
(please circle one)

I will contribute via a check, cash, or money order

Charge my credit card or debit card on or about the 12th of every month. My credit card number is provided below, or I will call with that information.

Set up an automatic monthly bank draft, processed during the first week of each month. We will send you an authorization form.

Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work (2 Cor. 9:7 and 8).

I prefer to waive receipt of *all* materials and the 15% discount.
(The above IRS regulation will not apply if you choose this option)

I prefer to waive receipt of part of the materials/15% discount. Please indicate above what you do *not* wish to receive. (The above IRS regulation will only apply toward those materials you choose to receive.)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

Work Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Fax: _____

Email: _____

Visa/MasterCard/Discover/AMEX: _____

Expiration Date: _____

Sign Up Online at
www.CESonline.org

Please make checks payable to CES and mail your form to:

2144 E. 52nd St, Indianapolis, IN 46205

or call toll free 888-255-6189 M-F 8:30 to 5, or fax 317-255-6249.

Thank you and God bless you. What a blessing you are!

Sign Up Online at
www.CESonline.org

Check Out These Upcoming Events

One Flesh Couples Conference

Kalamazoo, MI

7:30 p.m. Thursday night, February 12, to 12:30 pm Sunday, February 15
(Open to the first 20 couples. See the enclosed flyer)



Midwest Women's Conference

Kalamazoo, MI

Friday, March 26, 9:30 a.m. to Sunday, March 28, 12:30 p.m.
(see the enclosed flyer)



West Coast Conference

San Jose, CA

Friday, April 2, 9:00 a.m. to Sunday, April 4, 12:30 p.m.

Radisson Hotel, San Jose Airport

1471 North Fourth St. 408-452-0200

Room rate: \$75 (up to 4 people). Rooms must be reserved by March 17, 2004, hotel has FREE airport shuttle.
CES early registration (through March 17) \$65 after March 17: \$90

You can register online at www.CESonline.org or call us toll free at 888-255-6189, M-F 8:30 to 5



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www.CESonline.org

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PLEASE EXPEDITE



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www.TruthOrTradition.com
Share it with the world... go hyper-linking!!!

