# MONTHLYNEWSLETTER

# How to Know God's Will by William MacDonald

"Do not be like the horse or like the mule. " Psalm 32:9

It seems to me that the horse and the mule picture two wrong attitudes we might have when we are seeking the Lord's guidance. The horse wants to charge ahead; the mule wants to lag behind. The horse tends to be impatient, high-spirited, and impetuous. The mule, on the other hand, is stubborn, intractable, and lazy. The psalmist says that neither animal has understanding. Both have to be controlled by bit and bridle, otherwise they will not come near to their master.

God's desire is that we be sensitive to His leading, not plunging ahead in our own wisdom, and not holding back when He has shown His will. Here are a few rules-of-thumb that might be helpful in this regard. Ask God to confirm His guidance in the mouths of two or three witnesses. He has said, "By the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established." (Mt. 18:16b). These witnesses may include a verse of Scripture, the counsel of other Christians, and the marvelous converging of circumstances. If you get two or three distinct indications

of His will, you will not have any doubts or misgivings. If you are seeking God's guidance and no guidance comes, then God's guidance is for you to stay where you are. It is still true that "darkness about going is light about staying." Wait until the guidance is so clear that to refuse would be positive disobedience. The children of Israel were forbidden to move until the pillar of cloud and fire moved. No rationalizations on their part could excuse independent action. Their responsibility was to move when the cloud moved—not sooner and not later.

Finally, let the peace of Christ umpire in your heart. That is a free translation of Colossians 3:15. It means that when God is really guiding, He so influences our intellects and emotions that we have peace about the right way and no peace about any other way. If we are anxious to know the divine will, and quick to obey it, we will not need the bit and bridle of God's discipline.

From: One Day at a Time, pg 85 . Submitted by Leonard VandenBerg

Extreme Grandparenting by Tim & Darcy Kimmel - M60

In Extreme Grandparenting: The Ride of Your Life!, you'll find honesty, humor, stories, and practical experience to motivate and guide you into richer relationships with your children and grandchildren. Discover how you can reach and relate to grandkids, not only as a mentor and loving family member, but as a

spiritual rock during the hard times. Give the greatest gift possible to your family: yourself. A Focus on the Family resource (christianbook.com).

### From DeJagers' Diary March 2014

But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus. (Php 4:19)

Thank you for your continued prayers for the believers in our village in Papua New Guinea. Many have gone through a hard time with their gardens being washed away by mudslides. The rains have settled down some and they have been able to replant again. Pray for the believers as they seek to be a testimony to others in these difficult times.

In the past month there have been four people pass away in our village. The people have been busy building temporary structures at different places for visitors to cry and sleep in. People from far places will be arriving with mud on their faces to offer their condolences and stay for weeks. Please pray for opportunities for the believers to share God's Word through devotional time and on a personal level.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

~ Please pray that God will provide for our believers' physical needs. ~ Pray for opportunities for the saints to share the gospel at the funerals in our village.

~ Pray for safety in our travels as we share God's Word in different places.

~ Please pray for wisdom for Lois as she prepares to speak to a ladies group where there may be some who do not know the Lord. ~ Pray for health and strength.

Sincerely, Luke & Lois DeJager

## Family Bible Hour in the Arab World.

Our outreach to the Arab World is focussed on Libya. In the first six months of this year, there were 14,000 visits to the Maarifa website, from people living there. But even more impressive than website visits was the response to the Facebook page. Articles, videos, and other posts garnered 2.7 million "likes" as Libyans engaged with the content. Across the Arab World, the numbers for internet activity are impressive. A 2012 survey indicated that:

83% use the Internet every day 40% spend more than 5 hours per day on the Internet 61 % spend more than 2 hours per day on social media 78% prefer the Internet to TV

The Internet is the place to be to conect with Arabs in this generation....

Security for Christian workers on the ground continues to be a challenge. Earlier this year, a Libyan worker was killed in Benghazi, after he was caught with a shipment of Bibles for distribution. He was interrogated by police on site, and died in custody en route to Tripoli. He left a wife and 2 children. More recently, a Moroccan worker was sentenced to 2.5 years for sharing his faith. Proselytizing is a crime in Islamic countries.

Pray for a breakthrough. There is more opportunity to spread the gospel in the Arab world than ever before and it is only Christ that can give hope in the midst of chaos.



Young Arabs at an Internet Cafe

Wheaton, February 28, 2014

#### Dear Praying Friends,

The Bible translation work is going very well. The team dynamics with my two Kurdish translators are excellent, and every internet meeting with them produces satisfying progress. Keeping pace with them has made it hard to stay on top of everything else; so what a blessing it has been to have some new help! One of our fellow servants of Christ who lives in n. Iraq has begun meeting with the team two days a week. He has been guiding their work on 1 Timothy while I work with them on James the other three days. This has given me the opportunity to catch my breath and also catch up on the project management tasks, like accounting and correspondence.

His help also gives me more time to work on field testing. This is a critical need that has reached a crisis point. We had a visit from our consultant in November. He reviewed John and the first part of Ephesians. He is very happy with our work, but he has warned us that we have got to find a way to do more testing with "naive" native speakers, so we know what it communicates to people who do not already know what it is supposed to say.

It is not hard, of course, to find Kurds who are ignorant about the Bible! But it is hard to find people who are willing to participate in improving a Bible translation. Most Kurds are Muslims, and regard Christianity as something to be tolerated at best, but certainly not promoted. Even if they are personally open to it, most will (with good reason) be afraid of the reaction of their neighbors.

It is also hard to find people to test with because I am only able to be in the country part-time. It would be ideal to add another Kurdish member to the team, not as a translator, but as a tester. I still don't know who it would be; no one among my acquaintances there seems suited for the task. But I will need to work on this on my next trip, in April. Please work on it with me by your prayers!

Please also pray for my translator and his wife who was diagnosed this week with uterine cancer. She is scheduled for surgery on March 8. He is a believer; she is not.

On the home front: we are surprised and delighted that all of our children, who grew up crossing the globe with us, still live near enough that we can all get together for birthdays and holidays. Thanks for your partnership with us!

Michael and Rachel Maletich



Hannah, Peter, Carly, and Esther with us at Thanksgiving

#### FEATURED ITEMS FROM THE CHAPEL LIBRARY - Submitted by Bill Mooney





#### **Truth Unlocked: Keys to Reaching your Muslim Neighbour** Call Number: DVD.T4

Truth Unlocked is a six session video series that is designed to help the average person in the pew learn how to reach out

to, understand and love the Muslim people that they meet in their community.

There are six sessions:

1: Introduction to Islam - A high flyover of Islam, designed to take you from ignorance to a basic understanding of Islam and its basic principles.

2: Islam in North America - What happens when Islam comes to North America? Does it change? How? Why? 3: Beliefs (Islam vs. Christianity) - What are some of the theological similarities and differences between Islam and Christianity? For example, is Allah the same as Yahweh?

4: Challenges and Roadblocks - What are some of the roadblocks and challenges that we can run into that can hurt a relationship? What are some of the cultural faux pas that we may commit out of ignorance? 5: Sharing Your Faith- Some practical tips on how to share your faith.

6: Visions, Risks and Discipleship - What is the Jesus dream? What are the risks to you or to them? What is your responsibility to disciple a new convert to Christ?

We have also included the testimonies of each of the Muslim Background Believers that have participated in Truth Unlocked. Each testimony is very different, yet each is equally fascinating. Some have called them the hidden gems of Truth Unlocked (www. truthunlocked.org).



#### The Stranger on the Road to Emmaus: Videobook & Workbook Call Number: DVD.R6

This gives a solid overview of the main message of the Bible. It ties together key

Old and New Testament stories to reveal the identity of God and the nature of sin, all the time answering two questions: "Who is Jesus?" and "What is the story of the cross and the tomb all about?" It helps a person understand clearly what is the main message of the Bible.

In this 11-hour video series, John Cross takes you on an unforgettable journey, bringing to life the greatest stories of the Bible. Filmed on location and in the classroom, the viewer is led through The Stranger on the Road to Emmaus with the use of over 70 visual aids.

Six DVDs are divided into a total of 52 sections, ranging between 4-27 minutes each. In any given session you can watch as many or as few sections as you like. At the end of a section, you will be asked to "pause" the DVD to answer the questions in the included workbook, providing an excellent way to reinforce the lesson and ensure that the message is being understood. If you're looking for a stress-free way to teach the message of the Bible or want a tool that will complement your teaching, The Stranger on the Road to Emmaus - VideoBook will help you present an unforgettable gospel message.

This videobook is ideal for people who come from a Christianized background, whether Catholic, Protestant or Orthodox. It assumes readers have a concept of only one God who is a person—not a force (goodseed.com).

#### Please remember to SIGN OUT the BOOKS and DVDs that you borrow so that we can keep track of them. Thank you.

## **Responsible Christians**

'Twas a sheep, not a lamb, that strayed away In the parable Jesus told; A grown-up sheep that had gone astray From the ninety-nine in the fold. And why for the sheep should we earnestly long And earnestly hope and pray? Because there is danger; if they go wrong, They will lead the lambs astray. For the lambs will follow the sheep, you know, Wheresoever the sheep may stray. When the sheep go astray, it will not be long Till the lambs are as wrong as they. And so with the sheep we earnestly plead For the sake of the lambs today. If the sheep are lost, what a terrible cost Some lambs will have to pay.

Submitted by Henk Bondt

# April 2014

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
		1 9:00am Ladies Prayer Meeting 10:00am Ladies Missionary Group 6:25 pm AWANA	2 7:00pm Prayer & Bible Study	3	4	5
6 AM: Rod Belyea PM: Thomas Lewis 6:00pm Men's Prayer Meeting	7	8 9:00am Ladies Prayer Meeting 10:00am Ladies Bible Study 6:25 pm AWANA	9 7:00pm Prayer & Bible Study	10	11	12
13 AM: Leonard V PM: Dan Frew 6:00pm Men's Prayer Meeting	14 Men's Business Meeting 7:30pm	15 9:00am Ladies Prayer Meeting 10:00am Ladies Bible Study 6:25 pm AWANA	16 7:00pm Prayer & Bible Study	17	18 <u>Emmanuel Bible</u> <u>Chapel Good Friday</u> <u>Conference 2014</u> <u>Montague</u> ** See below for more info	19
20 EASTER SUNDAY AM: Brian Taylor PM: Robbie MacGregor 6:00pm Men's Prayer	21	22 9:00am Ladies Prayer Meeting 10:00am Ladies Bible Study 6:25 pm AWANA	23 7:00pm Prayer & Bible Study	24	25	26
27 AM: David Clarke PM: David Boisvert 6:00pm Men's Prayer Meeting	28	29 9am Ladies Prayer Meeting 10am Ladies Bible Study 6:25 pm AWANA	30 7:00pm Prayer & Bible Study	<b>** Easter Conference 2014</b> 1:15pm - Meeting #1 - Paul F 2:30pm - Snack/Fellowship 3:15pm - Meeting #2 - Wayn 5:00 - supper - free for every 6:15 - Meeting #3 - Paul Rob	Robertson Children's p NO CHARGI e Guindon For more in one call Joshua	vided for all 3 meetings. rogram for all meetings -3&up EFOR CONFERENCE fo: or Kara Poole 902-651-3003 dkarapoole@gmail.com