

A WORD FROM CHARLIE

This time of year, there's a lot of talk about "Christmas miracles:" A man with no name (an angel?) appears with just enough time and money to save a church from closing; an unexpected snowfall on Christmas Eve saves a ski resort and its elderly proprietor from bankruptcy (White Christmas); Christmas tree ornaments come to life to dance for us (The Nutcracker).

But why do we even need these contrived "Hallmark" Christmas stories? It seems to me there are enough miracles in the real story of Christmas: God became a man--a baby no less; prophets predicted hundreds of years before He was born into this world that He would be born of a virgin, born in Bethlehem, and born a King and a Savior. The best Christmas miracle is still available today, that a person can be born again with divine eternal life when they come to Jesus Christ as their Savior from sin.



It's hard to get excited by fanciful stories of grinches, Santa Claus, and red-nosed reindeer when I realize that God has forgiven all my sins, made me His son, and given me a new heart. On top of this, He has also given me a purpose in life—to share this life-changing message with every person in the world.

Nobody likes to be reminded that they are sinners--that fact is always on our minds--but people do need to be warned that our sins (anything that does not measure up to God's perfection) can separate us from God forever in a place called the Lake of Fire. But God loves us so much, he has provided a way of escape. He became a man named Jesus who, as the God-man, paid the penalty for our sins through His death on a cross. Then Jesus did something else that no other man could do; He rose up from the grave to live forever. As a living Savior, He promises and provides the forgiveness of all our sins, divine eternal life, and a new heart to enjoy an intimate relationship with God as our heavenly Father.

That's the Christmas miracle that is important to me today. And how about you? Have you experienced this miraculous new birth, the forgiveness of all your sins, and a new relationship with God as your Father forever? Jesus' promise is still available today the moment you believe in Him as your Savior. Jesus said, "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life" (John 5:24).

This is my Christmas miracle; I pray it is yours, also.

Until all hear,

Charlie Bing

Contributions postmarked by December 31 are tax-deductible for 2018!



Grace Means Go!

December 30 – Victor Street Bible Chapel, Dallas

January 3 – GraceLife Board Meeting, Burleson, TX

January 12-20 – GraceLife Institute, Conference, Myanmar

February 16- March 3 – Word of Life Bible Institute, Conference, Philippines

March 18-22 – GraceLife Institute, Hyderabad, India

April 5-6 – Mid-America Prophecy Conference, Tulsa

April 28 – Bayside Community Church, Tampa

May 2-5 – Men's Retreat, Grace Baptist Church, Redding, CA

www.gracelife.org



Keep in touch! Find us on Facebook under Charlie's name.

Charlie Answers FAQs about GraceLife

What is GraceLife? Legally speaking, we are a 501(c)3 charitable religious organization. In everyday language, we are a Christian ministry, or some might call us a missions organization. We are governed by a board of directors.

What does GraceLife do? We share the gospel of grace with unbelievers and the grace of the gospel with believers. Unbelievers can only be saved when they understand the gospel of God's free grace. But those who have believed often revert to living by the law, rules, or their own strength instead of depending on the grace of God. Everyone needs a deeper understanding of God's grace.

Where does GraceLife do it? In the United States, we preach in church services, retreats, and conferences. I am also adjunct faculty for several theological schools and occasionally teach in the classroom. Outside the USA, our emphasis is training pastors, ministry leaders, and ministry students in the grace message and the clear gospel. Besides the USA, we have ministered physically in sixteen other countries.

How does GraceLife train ministry leaders outside the USA? To train the 95% of pastors who have had no formal theological training, we offer a four-year program called GraceLife Institute (GLI) where we teach three courses a year and graduate the trainee after four years with a certificate. Our instructors are highly qualified teachers who are committed to teaching the grace message. GLI is currently training in India, Ghana, Burundi, and Myanmar. Apart from GLI, we also train ministry leaders in schools and conferences.

What resources has GraceLife produced? To keep things simple, we restrict our active participation to projects that I have authored or had a part in. We have brought to publication four books, participated in three other books, published three booklets, and produce a quarterly printed newsletter with GraceNotes (short Bible studies). Our website has a bookstore, articles, online books, GraceNotes, introductions and outlines for every Bible book, audio and video messages, and other helpful resources. It is accessed by virtually every country in the world.

How are your finances? Our budgeted general fund has been supported enough to meet our general expenses, and support me and a part time assistant. Our unbudgeted GraceLife Institute fund pays for training overseas and needs to be replenished continually because we pay all the expenses for the pastors we train (about \$100 per pastor for one week). Our GLI instructors pay their own expenses, which again, keeps it simple for us.

Where does GraceLife's financial support come from? Our support comes from individuals as well as a number of churches and other organizations. Literature sales are a very small part of our income., especially since we give so much literature away.

What is GraceLife's greatest need? I could be generic and say prayer and finances, but more specifically, I have been praying for the money and the right person to direct our GLI and for God to open more doors for GLI.

What is in GraceLife's future? We will continue to follow God's lead and go through doors He opens. Many countries request resources and GraceLife Institute training, but lack the leadership and organization to host us.

So I pray for wisdom to take GLI training where it will be most effective. We will continue to produce resources as needs are identified. In the not-so-far future, we hope to use technology to train leaders without having to travel so much.



Tour Israel with GraceLife friends!

We are happy to announce a second trip to the land where Jesus walked for May 14-26 of 2020. To get on our Israel info and update list, contact us at info@GraceLife.org or make a note on the return envelope. Our 2017 trip was a life-changing experience, educational, and just a lot of fun and fellowship with good people. So put this on your calendar now and join us in March, 2020!"

MinistryinFocus











1) September at Bayshore Community Church, Tampa 2), October GraceLife Friends BBQ at the Bings, TX, 3) October Missions Conference at Calvary Community Church, Tampa, with pastor Yankee Arnold, 4) Bible Conference at Community Blble Church, Omaha, with pastor Chuck Tschetter, 5) Bible and Missions Conference at Shiloh Bible Church, Bloomsburg, PA, with pastor Doug Lyon and wife Gina.

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Encouraging

FROM
CHARLIE AND
KAREN BING'S
GRANDDAUGHTER,
HARPER
HUTCHISON,
AGE 6.

